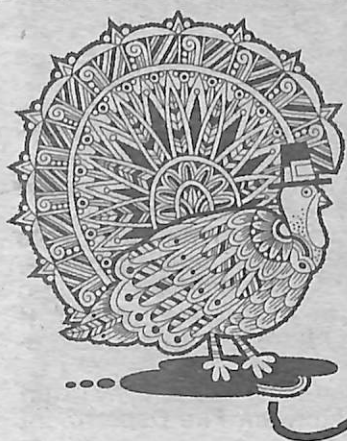


- The office will be closed from Thursday, November 26th, through Sunday, November 29th. We will reopen on Monday, November 30th, at 7:00 a.m.



AGAWAM

Advertiser-News

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Volume XXI Number 47

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

November 24, 1998

*The AAN wishes
you a happy and
healthy Thanksgiving.*

Celebrating 40 Years Of Service To Agawam...



LAST WEEK, two Agawam employees were honored for their 40 years of service to the town. IN TOP PHOTO: Town Auditor Carol Taylor (second from right) received a surprise party from her fellow employees, and congratulations were offered by (among others) Mayor Christopher Johnson, Dolores Cichetti, Rose Palazzi, Town Clerk Richard Theroux, and Coleen Hebert. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Lou Calabrese of the Agawam Fire Department was all smiles as he cut a cake made in his honor. Calabrese will be retiring from the fire department this coming January. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Transport Of Power Plant Generator Halted By Broken Weld In Hartford

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

After successfully completing a transatlantic crossing on a jumbo vessel to Virginia and a barge trip up the Connecticut River, Berkshire Power's 332-ton generator never made it out of the parking lot on the final 30-mile leg of its journey from Europe to Agawam.

During a functional test of the 222-foot specialty road transporter in a Hartford parking lot about an hour-and-a-half before the generator's scheduled departure at 12:01 a.m. on Sunday, a weld in the trailer gave way, splitting the trailer and sending trailer cargo eight inches into the pavement.

No one was hurt in the incident and the generator awaits inspection by Swiss engineers from its manufacturer, Asea Brown Boveri (ABB), to assess any damage that may have occurred before a decision is made to reschedule the trek to Agawam, or to send the generator to a test site for further evaluation.

Berkshire Power Project Manager Frank Basile said, "There was no impact on the community; there were no safety issues and no one was hurt. I consider it fortunate this didn't happen anywhere else—that's why we do the testing. Just to make sure there won't be any problems on the road, we put the transporter through rigorous testing."

No Apparent Damage To Generator

A cursory inspection of the generator by ABB engineers on the scene did not indicate any damage to the generator. Over the next few days, company representatives will be working with officials of the Holbrook, Massachusetts-based Hallamore Corporation to determine the root cause of the transporter failure and to develop a new plan for moving the generator to Agawam, Basile said.

Depending on the condition of the generator, the possibility of repairing the transporter or the

availability of a new transporter and the reissuance of a transportation permit from the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT), the generator could be on its way to the power plant site on Moylan Lane as early as this weekend.

Basile said the transporter mishap would not affect Berkshire Power's construction timetable as long as the generator can be delivered within the next two to three weeks.

"Our whole concern was not getting it here on a certain date," Basile said. "We have a four-week window of opportunity and this was the earliest weekend in that time period."

Basile said the transporter would be disassembled on Monday. The generator is to be lifted by means of a rigging system, set onto another trailer, and moved to the side of the parking lot while company representatives from ABB, Berkshire Power, Hallamore and Barnhart Crane & Rigging Company of Memphis, Tennessee (owners of the transporter) assess the situation.

The generator was to have traveled to Agawam by way of Connecticut Routes 187 and 189 through Granby into Southwick on Routes 10 and 202, and into Suffield over Routes 168 and 75, before crossing into Agawam and turning up Shoemaker Lane to the power plant site.

The plan was to leave Hartford just after midnight on Sunday morning, enter Agawam at around 3:00 p.m., and arrive at the Berkshire Power site around 5:00 p.m. Both the route and timetable for the shipment is specified by the DOT permit.

Delivering the generator during off-peak hours on Sunday is a result of Connecticut DOT specifications for the transportation permit in order to inconvenience the public as little as possible, company officials said.

FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano
Juvenile Firesetters

Estimates show that well over half the incendiary fires in larger municipalities are caused by children under the age of 18. In fact, many are younger. Boys are more likely than girls to be the culprits.

Unfortunately, simple curiosity, often combined with poor supervision, accounts for a large portion of the fires set by children, and the children who set fires are from a diverse group with varied social backgrounds and varying motives.

Some children who set fires are from "unstable homes," and many come from poor families. However, the statistics do not define a specific racial or ethnic group to be involved, nor is it found that many of the children have serious problems.

When identified juvenile firesetters warrant prevention efforts, the Agawam Fire Department provides these suggestions:

- Reduce the likelihood that any child will engage in unsupervised or otherwise potentially dangerous firesetting by removing matches and lighters from reach.

- Reduce the likelihood that children who have engaged in occasional unsupervised and/or otherwise dangerous firesetting do not repeat this behavior by better supervision and/or corrective measures.

- Identify and work intensively with those children who have an established history of firesetting.

Should you know of, or suspect, a juvenile firesetter, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662 for help.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 3, 1998 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Agawam. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Brian Fitzgerald for an Amendment to the Definitive Subdivision Plan of Katy Heights.

By Order of Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman
Agawam Planning Board

Published: November 24, 1998

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Camel Box & Lt. Box - Buy 2, Get 1 Free

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Five Residents Named To Advisory Board For Berkshire Power's Community Giving Prog.

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Representing a broad range of community interest and experience, five residents have been named to the Advisory Board for the Berkshire Power Community Giving Program.

Berkshire Power Project Manager Frank Basile announced last week that Granger School Principal Phyllis Lewis, James O'Keefe, Peter Forastiere, Father Kenneth Tatro of Sacred Heart Church, and Town Councilor George Bitzas will serve as members of the board that will oversee the company's Community Giving Program.

In calendar year 1999, the giving program will provide \$30,000 in funding for worthwhile projects benefiting education, sports, senior citizens, and civic organizations. The money will be disbursed in \$5,000 increments every two months, according to Berkshire Power representative Jack O'Neill.

"Being a businessman and a resident with children who have gone through the school system, I'm interested in having these funds designated for areas of the community that will have the most value for the town. As chairman of the Council On Aging, I have my hand on the pulse of what's occurring in the community for the elderly and as a member of the board, I'll have some hand in directing funds toward programs that will benefit our elderly citizens," Forastiere said.

Forastiere said Berkshire Power should be commended for forming a committee of citizens who are active in the community and giving them some authority to use the funds for the best interest of the community.

"I'm very excited about being a part of that," Forastiere said. "This is a very worthwhile effort and I can have some input that will benefit the community in many areas."

A long-time educator and advocate for children, Mrs. Lewis said she agreed to join the board to be a voice for education and for programs that will benefit children.

"Whenever people are giving away money for philanthropic causes, I don't mind helping make the decisions," Mrs. Lewis quipped.

Basile credited O'Neill with putting together a group that represents a cross section of the town's concerns.

"These five people have graciously given of themselves for projects that will benefit programs for the residents of Agawam. We are honored to have their expertise and commitment as part of this program," Basile said. "Our goal is to make sure the dollars used for the Community Giving Program will have a long-term and lasting benefit for Agawam."

The Advisory Board Members' Backgrounds...

Mrs. Lewis has been working at the school for the past 24 years. She has served on many committees throughout Agawam and has been

responsible for piloting many initiatives dealing with such areas as child sexual abuse, conflict resolution, and critical thinking skills. Mrs. Lewis is a graduate of Agawam High School who holds a bachelor of arts degree from Our Lady of the Elms College and a master's degree from Westfield State College.

O'Keefe, recently retired from the Frito-Lay Company of Dallas, Texas, is a lifelong Agawam resident and is active in many community organizations. A graduate of Agawam High School and Monson Academy, O'Keefe served eight years on the Agawam Parks and Recreation Commission and he has served 15 years on the Agawam Auxiliary Police force.

Bitzas, a five-term town councilor, is a graduate of Westfield State College. Currently employed as an interior designer, Bitzas has taught in the West Springfield Junior and Senior High Schools. He is the principal of Greek School at St. George's Cathedral in Springfield. A native of Greece, Bitzas emigrated to the United States more than 20 years ago. He has been honored by the Massachusetts American Legion as the "Outstanding Foreign Born Citizen."

Forastiere is a graduate of Classical High School, American International College, and the New England School of Anatomy, Sanitary Science, and Funeral Service. He is the vice president and chief executive officer of Forastiere Family Funeral Homes.

As Council On Aging chairman, Forastiere was instrumental in the planning and renovation of the Agawam Senior Center.

Father Tatro has been the pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills for six years. A native of Springfield, Father Tatro is a graduate of Cathedral High School. He studied at St. Thomas Seminary and Our Lady of the Angels Seminary before completing his bachelor's degree at Niagara University. Before coming to Sacred Heart Church, Father Tatro served at Holy Cross Parish and St. Mary's Parish, both in Springfield.

Among the groups who have already received funding from Berkshire Power are the Agawam Public Schools, the Agawam Veterans' Council, the Agawam Education Association, the Agawam Council On Aging, and Agawam high school athletics.

"Berkshire Power is the major sponsor of the annual golf tournament for Agawam high school athletics," O'Neill said. "This year, over \$17,000 was raised for the construction of a new press box at the high school athletic complex."

O'Neill said applications for the Community Giving Program will soon be available at various locations around town. Anyone wishing to receive an application can call Berkshire Power at 789-0075 or the Electric Company at 786-5640.

Veterans' Corner...

by Ruth C. Bitzas
Veterans' Agent — 786-0400, Ext. 236/237

State Cemeteries

This past week, I attended a State Veterans' Agent Training Seminar with over 200 agents in attendance. It was a three-day event wherein all state agents are required to be certified under recently passed legislation. One of the speakers was Bob McKean, Director of State Cemeteries.

As a result of the 1450 pre-registration forms submitted to the State for burial in a state cemetery, some issues arose that the state needed to address, such as a married couple who are both veterans; are they entitled to two individual sites, and what about markers for each?

Mr. McKean advised the group that in this particular instance, both would be entitled to a gravesite in the individual veterans' section of the cemetery, and in this case the state will reserve a gravesite side by side. Dependents of veterans will be buried in the closest single area available.

Another feature of the veterans' memorial cemeteries will be a "TALKING HOUSE." As people tour the cemetery or are there to visit, they can tune into a particular radio station in their vehicle welcoming them and giving highlights of the cemetery. In addition, the front wall of the chapel will be glass, allowing those inside a full view of the Honor Guards and burial area.

RESERVISTS: If a person serving in the National Guard is close to their retirement date and becomes disabled before their 20 years is served, the State may allow burial in a state cemetery. These cases will be decided on an individual case-by-case basis.

THE TIMOTHY MCVEIGH LAW: Mr. McVeigh was found guilty of the Oklahoma Federal Building bombing. However, he had a perfect record as a veteran and was awarded the Bronze Star by the military. Federal Law 105-116 prohibits a veteran convicted of a capital crime from being buried in a federal or state veterans' cemetery.

The following is a list of Agawam Korean War veterans whose last names begin with the letters "R" or "S," and whose names will be included on the Agawam Honor Roll.

If your name or the name of your loved one is missing and you feel they are eligible, please contact our office. We do not have a copy of their discharge on file and were not able to obtain the information for our list.

KOREAN WAR - "R" & "S"

Joseph T. Racicot, Fred J. Ramah, Isar F. Ramah, Lawrence E. Regnier, Richard R. Regnier, Joseph A. Rescigno, Walter M. Rickert, Michael Ristaino, Jr., Armand G. Roberge, George H. Roberts, Jr., Wilfred Roberts, Donald J. Roy, Norman H. Roy.

Clifton F. Safford, Jr., Winfield E. Safford, Albert T. St. Peter, Wesley J. Sage, Raymond A. Saracino, George J. Schlagel, Thomas E. Schmidt, Robert J. Schmidt, Harry Schweizer, Jr., James E. Scott, John R. Scott, Clifford C. Scoville, Robert M. Sealander, Roy L. Seidell, David C. Seuss.

Ralph R. Sheldon, John N. Shibley, Peter R. Shibley, Leslie S. Shipway, Jr., Charles H. Smith, Howard A. Smith, Eugene E. Southworth, Richard C. Southworth, Jerry J. Spagnuolo, Samuel M. Spencer, William H. Spring, Henry Stepanik, Richard Stepanik, George R. Stephens, Jr., Stanley R. Subotin, Richard R. Sullivan.

All the hometown news
with us ... AAN!!!

* * *

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given under General Laws, Chapter 138 that Maria Cuccovia, d/b/a Maria's Pizza and Grinders, 605 Silver Street, Agawam, MA, has applied for Transfer of License, Change of Location, Change of Manager, from Betty's Townhouse, Inc., Suzanne Bottaro, Manager. Building consisting of: one story masonry building, containing a restaurant and banquet facility of approximately 5,000 square feet,

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Agawam Police Department will hold a public hearing on November 27, 1998 at 6:00 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass.

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss use of the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant funds.

By Order of Robert Campbell, Chief of Police
Agawam Police Department

Published: November 24, 1998

For photo coverage in The AAN, please call photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053; however, please give him at least 48 hours' notice prior to your event.

LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSION AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS 01001

seating capacity of 127, with entrance/exits for each section going into the parking area. Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday, December 8, 1998, at 7:00 P.M., in the Faolin Peirce Room, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

Robert Vanderhoof, Chairman
Richard A. DiLullo
John J. Chriscola, Jr.

Published: November 24, 1998

LEGAL NOTICE



The Agawam Advertiser•News

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Used Car Dealers To Meet With Council Committee Next Month

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Used car dealers and town councilors will meet again in another effort to fine tune a proposed ordinance establishing new rules to regulate used car lots.

The council licensing, rules, and ordinance committees will hold a joint meeting with the car dealers in a second attempt to address the complaints dealers raised about the thrice amended ordinance during a second public hearing at last week's Town Council meeting. The meeting is slated for Tuesday, December 1st, at 7:00 p.m. in the community room of the library.

Last week the council narrowly approved a motion to table the ordinance for a third time by a margin of one vote. In favor of the tabling motion were Council President Donald Rheault, Council Vice President Robert Magovern, and Councilors George Bitzas, John Negrucci, and Nancy Thompson. Opposed were Councilors Robert Young, Gary Geiger, Edward Caba, and Dennis Perry. Councilors Jill Simpson and Gina Letellier were absent.

Directing the council clerk to notify all used car dealers of the December 1st meeting, Rheault said, "We would like the dealers to highlight their areas of concern and give us your proposals."

During the public hearing, several dealers complained that the used car business was being unfairly saddled with rules and regulations that deny them the full use of their properties and force them to follow rules that other small businesses are not required to comply with.

Auto Sport Distributors owner Walter Meisner said his business on Main Street abuts another used car dealer, a Chinese restaurant, and a condominium complex, yet only the car dealers are forced to have a buffer zone. Present rules require a five foot buffer zone between a car lot and the street, but the new rules call for a five foot buffer zone around the entire perimeter of a car lot.

Among the biggest bones of contention: the requirement for a five foot buffer zone around the entire perimeter of their lots, more specific language detailing the procedures for inspections of used car lots, hours of operation, and a grandfathering clause to allow dealers to continue to operate under the rules currently in place.

Daniel Rising, owner of D & J Auto, asked the council not to amend the ordinance at last week's meeting. Rather, Rising asked that dealers be given a chance to examine the final draft of the ordinance, including any amendments, before the

council votes on a second or third reading.

"The actual thing you're going to be voting on should be in writing," Rising said. "You should be reading it and we should be reading it along with you."

Other Provisions Of The New Ordinance...

Other provisions of the new ordinance include decreasing the amount of space required for each car on display for 300 to 200 square feet, mandating inspections twice a year, and requiring dealers to submit a plot plan to the building inspector.

In March, a surprise inspection of all used car dealers found 13 out of 34 dealers had more cars parked on their lots than allowed by their licenses. Letters were sent to the dealers found in violation of their licenses warning them that they must be in compliance with the rules within 14 days or they would face a penalty from the Licensing Committee. Three weeks later, a subsequent inspection found most of the dealers in compliance with their licenses.

An inspection of the car dealers in October prompted council licensing committee Chairman George Bitzas to summon four dealers who have been repeatedly in violation of their licenses to a committee meeting immediately preceding the council meeting.

Reporting to the full council, Bitzas said his committee voted unanimously to recommend that the council grant new licenses for 1999 to all the dealers with the exception of the four chronic violators. Those four license applications were placed on hold until the next council meeting as a penalty, giving the dealers another month to comply before the council will decide whether to revoke or suspend the licenses or to levy fines against the businesses.

Questioning the licensing committee's failure to recommend fining the four license holders found to be repeatedly in violation, Councilor Dennis Perry said he had no problems with the existing ordinance other than a lack of enforcement on the part of the council, which has the right to fine dealers \$50 a day for each violation.

"I make a motion to fine them," Perry said. "Someone's got to do it."

There was no second for Perry's motion and Rheault said the motion was out of order because a fining motion should come from the licensing committee and not from the council floor.

Melconian Announces Bill Protecting Seniors From Drug Dealers

Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is pleased to announce a bill for the 1999 legislative session that will help to safeguard the area around senior citizens' homes from drug dealing.

The bill, modeled after laws which protect schools and playgrounds, would create a mandatory two-year jail sentence for anyone caught dealing drugs within 1,000 feet of a senior citizen housing complex.

"Our seniors are especially vulnerable to the dangers of drug dealing and the violent crime that comes with it," said Melconian. "We have to give police the tools to combat these dangers."

Melconian's bill would modify section 32J of chapter 94C and create a 1,000-foot safety zone around state-aided or federally-aided housing developments for the elderly, and around communities constructed expressly for use as housing for persons 60 years of age or older.

Ignorance of the boundaries of the senior home would not be a defense against this charge. The bill singles out seniors for protection because their age makes them especially vulnerable to the theft that accompanies illegal drug use and because they spend significant amounts of time in their homes.

"When drug deals are happening right outside your door, it is terrifying," said Melconian. "I don't want seniors to become hostages in their own homes."

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN COUNCIL AGAWAM, MA

The Agawam Town Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 7, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA, on the application of Dept. of Public Works Operational Facility for a license to keep, store for personal use or re-sale of petroleum products in underground tanks or above ground not to exceed 9000 gallons at 1347 Main Street in the Town of Agawam, MA.

Richard M. Theroux
Town Clerk

Published: November 24, 1998

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New Zoning Board Of Appeals Hearing Needed For WMECO Substation

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Construction of the switching substation needed to connect the Berkshire Power plant to the New England power grid has been delayed while a new public hearing before the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is advertised.

Acting ZBA Chairman Larry Hoague said at Thursday night's meeting that Western Massachusetts Electric Company (WMECO) must reapply for a special permit to construct a 115kV Switching Station on Moylan Lane because some neighbors of the proposed project had not been notified of last month's public hearing.

"We expect to hold a new public hearing within the next few weeks," Hoague said. "Most likely, the hearing will be on December 17th at the Middle School at 6:30 p.m. If the paperwork can't be done in time, the next possible date will be in January."

Notice of the hearing will appear as a legal notice in *The AAN*.

WMECO substation supervisor for the Springfield area, Charlie Fijnvandraat, said his company's construction timetable would be moved forward because construction cannot begin without the special permit. Fijnvandraat could not say whether the delay would adversely affect WMECO's ability to provide the switching station in a timely fashion to meet Berkshire Power's timetable.

The interconnection substation will include space for a 24 by 40 foot relay and control enclosure, as well as switching devices, current-limiting reactors, voltage sensing devices, surge arrester, electrical bus, supporting steel structures, and foundations and interconnecting control cables and conduits.

Two existing transmission towers will be removed and nine new 70 foot to 80 foot towers will be erected. To accommodate transmission lines between the existing and proposed towers, trees will be cleared to within 40 feet on both sides of the transmission lines.

Five Acres To Be Deeded Over To WMECO...

The proposed two-acre substation will be located on five acres to be deeded over to WMECO by Berkshire Power as part of a plan to avoid impacting the wetlands (and at the same time, provide a 25-acre parcel as habitat for the Eastern box turtle).

The discovery of a population of Eastern box turtles on the WMECO property adjacent to the

Berkshire Power site prevented the utility from using the property for the substation as planned. Rather, the facility will be built on five acres of the Berkshire Power site that had previously been set aside to offset agricultural acreage lost to the power plant.

In a deal worked out between the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and the power developers, Northeast Utilities will set aside 25 acres to be placed under permanent conservation restriction for the protection of the Eastern box turtle and Berkshire Power will turn over the agricultural offset acreage to WMECO for the substation.

To replace the agricultural offset acreage

originally set aside by Berkshire Power, Northeast Utilities will set aside an additional five acres as agricultural offset acreage.

At last month's ZBA public hearing, several residents spoke in opposition to the plan. Among the concerns raised were the effect of electromagnetic radiation on turtle migration, the visual impact the towers will have on neighbors of the site, outside lighting at the substation, and the charge that there was more concern for the turtles than for the people living nearby.

WMECO has already received Planning Board and Conservation Commission approval for the proposed substation.

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— Obituary —

Charles A. Rossi, Jr.

Charles A. Rossi, Jr., 49, of Lowell Lane, Huntington, died recently at Noble Hospital in Westfield.

He was a salesman at Sweet Life Foods and later started his own business, Rossi Landscaping. He also was employed at Merkert Enterprises.

Born in Springfield, he lived most of his life in Agawam before moving to Huntington 20 years ago.

He was a graduate of Agawam High School and a member of the varsity football team.

He was a communicant of St. Anthony of Padua Church, where he was once an altar boy.

He leaves his wife, the former Yvonne L. Fortin; three sons, Charles A. III of Chicopee, James R. of Huntington, and David L. of Westfield; a daughter, Jessica Lynn Rossi of Huntington; his mother, Angelina (DePinto) Rossi of West Springfield; two brothers, Joseph M. of Southwick and Alfred of West Springfield; and three sisters, Carol Grzywacz and Angelina Chmielewski, both of Feeding Hills, and Susan Silvernail of Southampton.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery.

* * *

Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, the office will be closed from Thursday, November 26th, through Sunday, November 29th. We will reopen on Monday, November 30th, at 7:00 a.m.

* * *

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WMECO Presents Energy Conservation Checks To Agawam

Western Massachusetts Electric Company (WMECO) recently presented the Town of Agawam with checks totaling approximately \$70,000 for energy-efficient lighting improvements at five schools.

WMECO Account Executives Aprille Soderman and Maurice Nichols presented the incentive checks to Mayor Christopher Johnson, Superintendent of Schools Frank Ameruso, and Director of Building and Maintenance Anthony Albro to offset the cost of lighting improvements at Agawam High School and the town's four elementary schools. These improvements are expected to save the Agawam School System approximately 364,000 kilowatt hours (kwh) or \$37,000 annually.

Robert G. Abair, Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer of WMECO, stated that "Over the next five years, the reduction in energy usage will approach two-million kwhs, resulting in savings of approximately \$181,290 for the Town of Agawam."

Abair credited the extent of the lighting improvements to Albro's willingness to work proactively with WMECO to identify every avenue for savings in the Town's facilities.

Agawam High School is expected to save 127,766 kwh annually, while the elementary schools (Robinson Park, Phelps, Clark, and Granger) will realize approximately 70,184, 57,046, 52,510, and 56,031 kwh, respectively, each year.



MAYOR CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON receives energy conservation checks from (left to right) Western Massachusetts Electric Company representatives **Bill Hayes, Maurice Nichols, and Aprille Soderman**. Looking on are **Director of Building and Maintenance Anthony Albro** and **Superintendent of Schools Frank Ameruso**. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

From The Agawam COA...

New Information About The State Fuel Assistance Program

Not everyone's home uses heat the same way. Some houses or apartments may cost more to heat than others, even though they use the same heating source.

This year, the State Fuel Assistance Program is starting the High Energy Pilot Program — a new way of helping households that have above-average heating costs.

According to the Agawam Council On Aging, while fuel assistance eligibility will still be based on the number of people in a household and household income before taxes, the High Energy Pilot Program also considers that household's heating use for the last 12 months. If a household shows it used an unusually high amount of energy to stay warm, it will receive an added \$100, or \$30

if it is a subsidized rental unit.

- If you heat with electric or gas, and have not moved within the last 12 months, your energy use information may be provided by your utility directly to your local community action agency.

- If you heat with oil or propane, you may be asked to bring in copies of your heating bills for the 12 months prior to your application date.

- To find out if you need to supply copies of your energy bills in order to be considered for the High Energy Pilot Program, please contact your local community action agency.

Note: Additional benefits are subject to the available funding. If you are a member of a one- or two-person household, your annual income must be below \$11,835 (one-person household) or

\$15,915 (two-person household) in order to be eligible for this program.

Save all heating bills from this year. They may help to determine your benefits next heating season!

WHEN YOU APPLY FOR FUEL ASSISTANCE, REMEMBER TO:

- ✓ Bring official proof of your income from all sources for at least the past four weeks, up to one year. This may include pay stubs, transitional assistance benefits, SSI checks, alimony checks, a statement from your employer, or a dividend check. Income tax forms and W2 forms are not ac-

SEE ASSISTANCE - Page 8...

Alexander's

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Spend Thanksgiving With Us

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**Reservations A Must —
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Training Drills Refine Agawam Fire Department's Response To Emergencies

by Kathy Shepard
AAN Feature Writer

Challenges to public safety have multiplied in the past several decades. The Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics lists many thousands of chemicals classified as hazardous. State training in the handling and safety requirements of these chemicals was begun in 1990 for the Agawam Fire Department and 10 other local town fire departments.

These 11 departments comprise the Regional Emergency Response Team. Ongoing drills and exercises continuously upgrade and hone the safety skills of this team, which totals 44 technicians. Each member is equipped with a beeper and is on-call 24 hours a day. Deputy Steve Martin of the Agawam Fire Department estimates, "In 15 minutes, there will be at least 20 hazardous materials technicians at the site of a spill."

The Chicopee Fire Dispatch alerts the "haz mat" crew by beeper. The equipment for combat in hazardous spills, including a command module truck and an equipment truck which carries the protective suits, face masks, and other highly specialized equipment, is stored in Chicopee.

The Agawam Fire Department's technicians on the Regional Emergency Response Team include Deputy Steve Martin, Lt. James Brown, Lt. Nick Demko, Kenneth Blair, Karl Schmaelzle, Donald Wells, Donald Savaria, and Vincent Pietroniro.

The communities whose fire departments make up the District 4 team are Agawam, West Springfield, Ludlow, Longmeadow, Chicopee, Northampton, Easthampton, Wilbraham, Westfield, Amherst, and Holyoke. In addition, in a spill of unusually demanding magnitude, Springfield has its own hazardous materials team and would provide ample backup.

Historically, the state created the Regional Emergency Response Team due to an accident in Somerville around 1988. A derailment resulted in the release of phosphorus trichloride, described by Martin as "a fuming, water-reactive, toxic substance."

Martin relates that its cloud hung over the highly-populated area for two days. Efforts to dispel it were frustrating. The Somerville event highlighted the need for more training and comprehensive response for fire departments. There were new breeds of chemicals, more complex and toxic than ever. Changes in industrial chemicals posed new risks, and training for fire departments would be pivotal to maintaining public safety.

Agawam Fire Department Is Well-Equipped...

The Agawam Fire Department is well-equipped to deal with emergencies for many reasons. Training Officer Michael Mercadante received certification in Hazardous Materials Response instruction at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. The technicians sharpen their emergency skills continuously through training drills at various sites.

Martin described one such drill at Fisher Scientific in Agawam, "involving their personnel, the Agawam Fire Department, and the District 4 Haz Mat Team. Fisher serves as a shipper and receiver of a multitude of academic and scientific products for distribution."

Hazardous materials and some flammable liquids are stored "on site," plus some are classified as corrosives and oxidizers. Fisher is a licensed "haz mat" waste generator as well.

"This allows them to clean up and store materials which have spilled or leaked," explains Martin. "They have personnel on duty trained to handle small leaks and other manageable haz mat events, but they will call the Agawam Fire Department immediately for events which are considered reportable or beyond their control."

The Agawam Fire Department also owns an

"AIM," a \$2,500 device that can detect extremely low levels of carbon monoxide, oxygen (which should be at about 20 percent), and 30 gasses "OF IMMEDIATE DANGER TO LIFE AND HEALTH" (IDLH) if keyed in by name. For example, methane, benzene, or ethylene exemplify the many petrochemicals that fall into this category. Anyone who doubts the cost value of this device has probably never smelled ethylene glycol.

The AIM has saved lives on the spot. Martin explains that, "The Agawam Fire Department is the first line of defense for the community against hazardous materials. Rescue, evacuation, spill control, and confinement and environmental protection are some of the initial actions taken by Fire Department personnel."

First Step In "Operational Phase"...

The first step in the "operational phase" of an industrial accident is identification of the chemical, for without that information, further disaster could result. The AIM obviously helps in many cases, but there are simply too many chemicals to program into that device, so the Fire Department relies on tools such as placards with code numbers on tankers, shipping papers, the NIOSH (National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health) Handbook, the U.N. Guidebook, or even the characteristics of a vapor cloud using binoculars if necessary.

A federal mandate requires that every fire department be at First Responder Operational Level, training to identify and to carry resources that assist in identifying hazards.

The EXPLOSION category might read, "Ruptured cylinders may rocket." The PUBLIC SAFETY section could instruct that streams of the spilled chemical must be diverted from storm drains. In this initial, operational phase, the actions of the fire department are crucial, so emergency information has had to be made concise and readily available.

The next step, if appropriate, is to call in the "haz mat" team. When the Commonwealth created the six regional teams in 1990, initial training with the Massachusetts Firefighters Academy involved four weeks of intensive training at various sites throughout the state. "It is a voluntary program and training never really stops," points out Martin.

Pre-emergency planning inspections are another weapon in the fire department's armory. These pre-emergency inspections are done on a continuing basis. Factors such as storage locations, means of egress and ingress, and emergency phone numbers of maintenance or other personnel, are important details to know in advance.

An attitude of sincere willingness to accept responsibility for public safety permeates the discussion about emergency response. To an outsider, the act of facing dragons such as hydrochloric acid or ethyl benzene seems impossibly brave.

There is no false bravado. Martin suggests it is unrealistic to boast or promise perfection. Accidents can and, sadly, sometimes do happen. The commitment to prevent when possible and respond when necessary is quite reassuring when the scope of the demands is more fully appreciated.

Hazardous materials and safety requirements involve understanding massive amounts of information, and fire departments and emergency response are no strangers to the task. In the proportionately few emergencies that do occur, the Agawam Fire Department has long been well-prepared.

Through constant, ongoing training, the fire department will be the first line of defense in the community against the release of hazardous materials.



MICHAEL MERCADANTE, a "haz mat" instructor, wearing a Level A "haz mat" suit.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

ASSISTANCE - from Page 7...

ceptable. If you are applying for the first time, you must apply in person.

✓ Bring a recent bill or letter from your heating company (oil, gas, electricity) or a rent receipt if heat is included in your rent.

✓ Ask for a copy of your Fuel Assistance application or your application number. Keep it in a safe place for future use. Ask about energy-saving materials and programs.

✓ If you are homebound, call your local agency for help in filing an application.

EMERGENCY HELP IS AVAILABLE FROM YOUR LOCAL AGENCY...

Help may be obtained for a heating emergency within 18 hours of completing your application if you have any of the following:

- No heat due to a heating system failure or due to another reason.
- A final shutoff notice from a utility.
- Less than 1/8 tank of heating oil.
- An eviction threat within 72 hours and heat is included in your rent.

Fuel assistance appointments can be made on Thursdays, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, by calling the Agawam Senior Center at 786-0400, ext. 242.

All the local news with us ... AAN!!!

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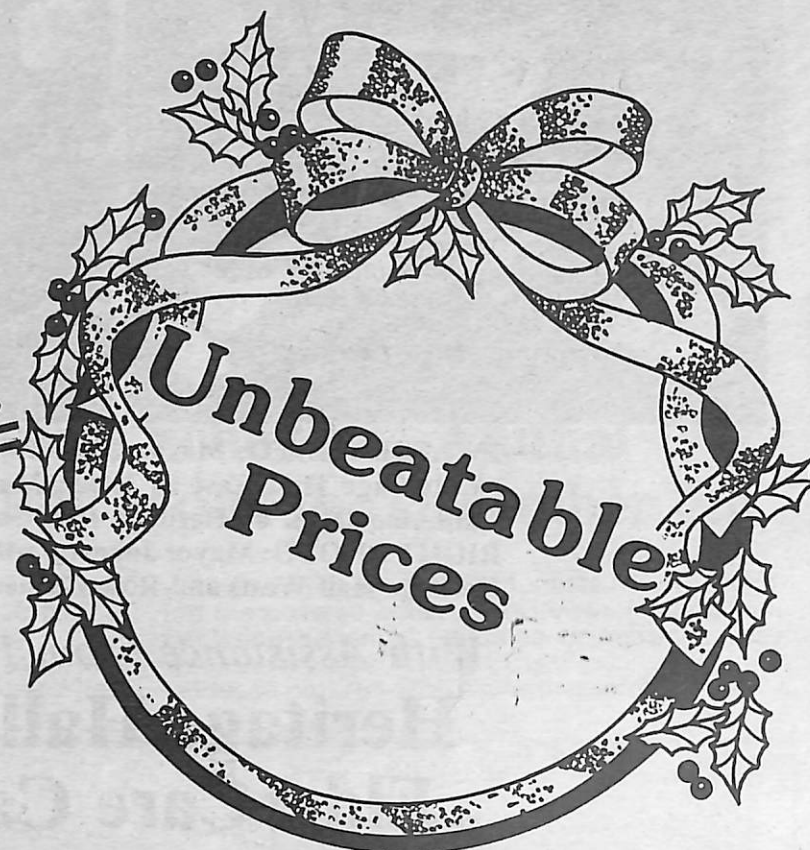
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Families



IN LEFT PHOTO: Mayor Christopher Johnson presents a "Best Costume" award to Deborah Reavey of Heritage Hall East as Helen Manning (East Building Activity Director) looks on. IN CENTER: Katherine Dyba of Heritage Hall South receives a "Best Costume" award from Mayor Johnson. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Mayor Johnson with Katherine Cunningham (individual "Best Costume" winner from Heritage Hall West) and Rose Garneau. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

With Assistance From Hamilton Standard Volunteers...

Heritage Hall Holds Parade On Genesis ElderCare Campus On November 14th

With the help of over 30 Hamilton Standard volunteers, the residents, families, and staff of Heritage Hall held a parade on the Genesis ElderCare campus on Saturday, November 14th.

Heritage Hall was chosen by the Community Outreach team at Hamilton Standard — a team made up of Hamilton employees who volunteer their time for various causes in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The team members wanted to work with the elderly in a meaningful and fun way. Working with Heritage Hall staff, team members brainstormed activities and came up with the idea of a parade

involving all four of the nursing centers.

Each nursing center chose a theme with corresponding costumes and decorations. In addition, residents, staff, and volunteers built floats to enter into the parade contest. Hamilton Standard employees volunteered their time after work to assist in the creation of the floats, and provided prizes and refreshments for the event.

Mayor Christopher Johnson joined the residents for the parade and chose the winners in the categories of "Best Float" and "Best Individual Costume." Heritage Hall South won a large holiday wreath for being awarded "Best

Float" for their theme of Thanksgiving.

Individual "Best Costume" winners were the following: Heritage Hall North — Mary Jean Ziemba; Heritage Hall West — Katherine Cunningham; Heritage Hall South — Katherine Dyba; and Heritage Hall East — Deborah Reavey. Other building themes included "The Roaring 20's" and "Titanic."

Heritage Hall wishes to thank everyone who participated, especially the Hamilton Standard volunteers who made the event possible. The parade was truly a day to remember!

JACK DEVINE needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call Jack at 789-0053.

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More Highlights From Heritage Hall Parade...



IN LEFT PHOTO: Activity Director Lisa Parent, Mary Jean Ziemba (individual "Best Costume" winner from Heritage Hall North), and Mayor Christopher Johnson. IN RIGHT PHOTO: The residents and staff of Heritage Hall South are awarded "Best Float" honors by Mayor Johnson. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

For the best in local goods and services, check our classified ads in each edition.

* * *

Agawam Lioness Schedules Annual Christmas Party For Monday, December 7th

The Agawam Lioness will hold their Christmas party on Monday, December 7th, at 7:00 p.m. at Alexander's Restaurant in Feeding Hills.

There will be a collection of canned goods, plus a collection of mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats for adults and children.

The Lioness are offering for sale pillows featuring the covered bridge, and throws (color green) depicting historical buildings in Agawam. They would make nice holiday gifts.

Please call 786-1782 for further information.

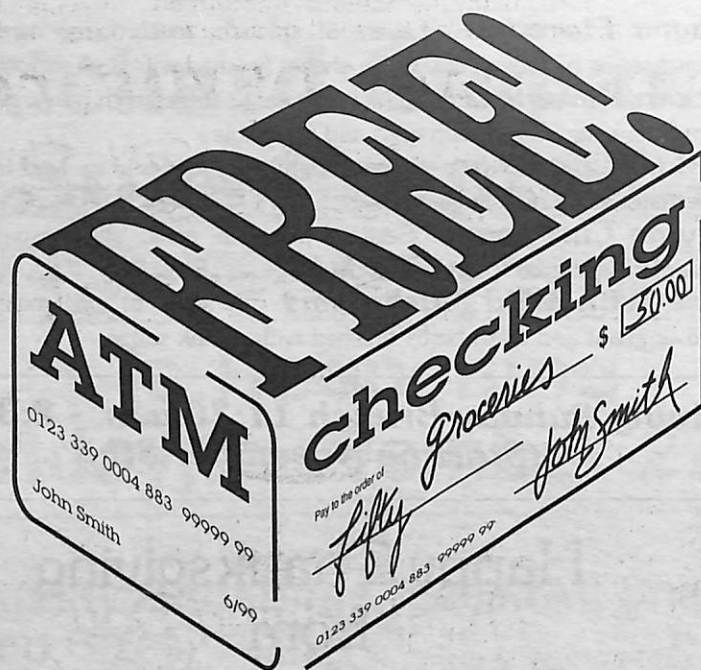
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Jr. Women To Host Breakfast With Santa And Mrs. Claus

Christmas is coming! Christmas is coming! Please come join the Agawam Junior Women's Club in welcoming in the 1998 Holiday season with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Our Annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus will be held Sunday, December 6th in the cafeteria at the Agawam High School from 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The cost will be \$3.50 for adults and \$2.50 per child.

Pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available for \$2 each. A mailbox will be available for letters to Santa. Please include a return address if an answer is desired.

We will also be accepting donations for our Holiday Basket program and the Open Pantry. Any type of non-perishable items would be greatly appreciated.

Tickets are available by calling Dee at 786-9085 after 5:00 p.m.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the GFWC and the GFWC of Massachusetts.

A reminder to community groups, service organizations, etc.: be sure to publicize your events two weeks in advance.

* * *

The Blue Shutters Slate Annual Craft Sale For Dec. 5th

The Annual Craft Sale at The Blue Shutters on 969 Shoemaker Lane will be held on Saturday, December 5th, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Featured will be home-grown and homemade jams, jellies and pickles, fresh baked bread, muffins and sweet breads, plus other handcrafted items.

Theresa Barlow of The Blue Shutters will be joined in the sale by Nancy Doucette, who will be showing her handmade dolls as well as outfits for the "American Girl" doll.

Do stop by The Blue Shutters, 969 Shoemaker Lane, Feeding Hills, and sample some of the goodies. Browsers are welcome.

* * *

Our next deadline is Tuesday, Dec. 1st, at 12:00 noon... AAN!!!

* * *

Daniel W. Davis Promoted To Major

Daniel W. Davis has been promoted in the U.S. Air Force to the rank of major.

Davis, a mission systems chief, is assigned to the Air Force Research Laboratory, Rome, New York.

He is the son of Golda E. Button of 13 Brown St., Norwich, New York. His wife, Judith, is the daughter of Henry Z. Longtin, Jr. of 3709 Christmas Palm Place, Oviedo, Florida, and Rosalind Alford of 80 Corey Colonial, Agawam.

In 1977, he graduated from Norwich Senior High School and in 1973, received a master's degree from Western New England College in Springfield.

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4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. * All Extrees \$11.95

Lasagna Floretine - Layers of spinach, mushrooms, eggplant with a Bechamel sauce between curly pasta sheets finished with a plum tomato sauce

Chicken Marsala - Fresh chicken breast sauteed with mushrooms, finished with marsala wine served with orzo and vegetable

Eggplant Parmesan - Eggplant lightly breaded and sauteed topped with a plum tomato sauce over linguine

Linguine Carbonara - Sauteed pancetta, garlic, shallots with fresh egg, parmesan and olive oil tossed with linguine

Penne With Wild Mushrooms - A saute of wild mushrooms with roasted eggplant and fresh herbs finished with a pink sauce

Serving Sunday Brunch 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
(Starting November 8th)

Happy Thanksgiving
from
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Dinner & Dance To Benefit Teenager Scheduled For 12/12

A buffet dinner and dance will be held on Saturday, December 12th at 4:00 p.m. at the Polish American Club, Route 57, Feeding Hills to benefit **Steve Estridge**, age 16, of Ware, MA.

Steve was critically injured July 7, 1998 while BMX dirt-jumping. He sustained life-threatening injuries to his pancreas, and was in critical condition at Baystate Pediatric Intensive Care. Steve was transferred to Boston Children's Hospital, where he was treated for two weeks.

He was sent back to Baystate Medical Center and, after developing septic shock, experiencing kidney failure, and being on life support, he then had two emergency operations on the pancreas. Steve is still hospitalized at Baystate Medical Center and is currently on kidney dialysis and in physical therapy.

Steve's mom, Sharon, has stayed with him 24 hours a day, helping to care for him - at the cost of losing her job. His father, Steve, Sr., has also suffered unpaid leaves of absence from his job. The devastation to the entire family has been not only physical, but financial.

Your support for Steve and his family by attendance at the benefit will be greatly appreciated and in the holiday spirit. There will be a ziti buffet supper, cash bar, door prizes and raffles, dancing to a DJ, and later to the band, Grand Prixx. Teenagers are also welcome!

Tickets are \$15 each and reservations can be made by calling Bob or Lynda Juzba, 562-8139; Michele Estridge, 739-0145; Melissa Estridge, 967-3268; or Jay Gauvin, 562-2261.

Please call the same numbers if you are interested in donating door and raffle prizes. Your name or organization will be announced during the drawings. If you are unable to attend, but would like to mail a donation, please make your check payable to Benefit for Steve Estridge, and mail it to Westbank, Attn: Ellen Bellows, 1340 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

See you on the 12th!

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Local Military Men Participate In Beach Clean-Up In Okinawa

Marine Gunnery Sgt. Kenneth J. Roberts, a 1981 graduate of Agawam High School, and Navy Hospitalman Chad E. Gilbert, the son of Edward G. Gilbert of Agawam and a 1996 graduate of Agawam High School, recently had the opportunity to participate in a beach clean-up project while stationed in Okinawa, Japan, with 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, as part of the Unit Deployment Program (UDP).

Volunteers from each soldier's unit spent a day cleaning debris from the mile-long Koki Beach area with help from Okinawan businessmen of the Junior Chamber of Commerce Corporation.

The project was part of an ongoing community-minded relationship between Okinawan citizens and Marine volunteers stationed there, who also participated in Earth Citizen Day, a Japanese national holiday, as well as a painting and maintenance project at the Airakuen Leprosarium on nearby Yagaji Island.

UDP units based in the United States come to Okinawa for six months to train. From Okinawa, Roberts' and Gilbert's units can deploy to mainland Japan, Korea, and other Pacific countries.

Roberts joined the Marine Corps in February 1981 and Gilbert joined the Navy in June 1996.

Calendar Of December Events From Golden Age Club (Chapter 2)

Tuesday, December 1st, through Thursday, December 10th: Vacation to Costa del Sol, Spain.

Wednesday, December 2nd: Christmas Banquet at Chez Josef. Social hour is at 11:00 a.m., with the dinner to commence at 12:00 noon. Entertainment will be provided by "The Old Rubber Band."

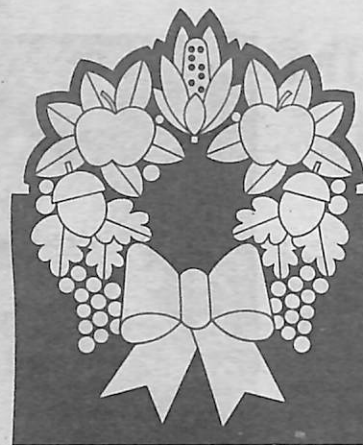
Monday, December 7th: Bus trip to Mohegan Sun.

Wednesday, December 16th: Annual Christmas Party at the Senior Center, beginning at 1:30 p.m. A craft sale will precede the meeting. Members are asked to bring a non-perishable item for the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

* No Board of Directors' meeting in December. The 1999 membership dues are now payable to Edward Grimes, 1123 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

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Christmas Is Coming!

And

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Open Seven Days

Come And Enjoy Our
Display Of Lights

Country Estates Of Agawam Holds Craft Fair



AT THE RECENTLY HELD CRAFT FAIR at Country Estates of Agawam, located at 1200 Suffield Street, some of the vendors who were selling their wares included Kenny Polastry and Laurie Provost (left photo), Penny Cunningham and Sara Stroup (center photo), and Phyllis Nacewicz and Anthony Conte (right photo). Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Elizabeth Mary Centra Becomes Bride Of Jonathan Corso

Elizabeth Mary Centra, daughter of John and Nancy Centra of Manlius, New York, exchanged wedding vows with Jonathan Corso, son of Dennis and Janice Corso of Feeding Hills, on May 30, 1998 at Hendricks Chapel at Syracuse University.

The bride was given away in marriage by her parents during the ceremony performed by Father James Lang, Chaplain at Syracuse University.

Maid of honor was Joan Centra of Boson, sister of the bride, and matron of honor was Catherine Coyle of Pottsville, Pennsylvania, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Stefane Bartlett of Paris, France, Katherine Huggins of Arlington, Virginia, and Alicia Corso, sister of the groom, of Boulder, Colorado.

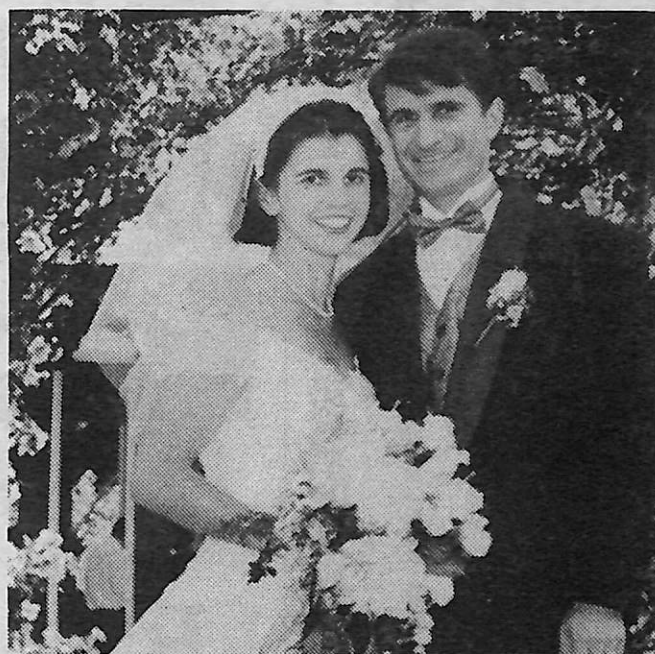
Jennifer Laychak of Sierra Vista, Arizona, cousin of the bride, was flower girl. Ryan Coyle of Pottsville, Pennsylvania, nephew of the bride, was ring bearer.

Best man was Michael Murphy of South Hadley, Mass. Ushers were David Payne of Boston, Matthew Lawrence of San Francisco, California, David Greenberg of New York, New York, and Greg Schiefelbein of Chicago, Illinois.

A vocal solo was performed by Cynthia Slavens of Los Angeles, California and an instrumental solo was performed by Gary Hyzer of Alexandria, Virginia, both friends of the bridal couple.

A reception was held at the Persian Terrace of the Hotel Syracuse. The couple took a wedding trip to Maui and Kauai, Hawaii.

The bride, a graduate of Fayetteville-Manlius



MR. & MRS. JONATHAN CORSO

High School, attended the University of Richmond in Richmond, Virginia and received her MPA from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. She is employed as project manager for the National Association of City and County Health Officials.

The bridegroom, a graduate of Agawam High School, graduated from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and received his MPA from the Maxwell School of Syracuse University. He is economic development director for the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission.

The couple will make their home in North Andover, Mass.

1998 Christmas Ornament Depicts Agawam Town Hall

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is proud to announce that our 1998 Christmas ornament has arrived. This year's ornament is the eighth in a series and depicts the Agawam Town Hall.

On the front of the ornament, a likeness of the Town Hall is etched with the year it was built, 1942. The back of the ornament has "Seasons Greetings, 1998, Agawam, Massachusetts, 8th Edition." The ornament is made from genuine pewter and made in the USA.

The cost is \$6 per ornament. We hope to have them available for sale in some local businesses after Thanksgiving. In the meantime, if you're interested in purchasing an ornament, please call Pam Quirk at 789-3274 or Betty Vershon at 786-4357.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.



Check our classified ads each week...

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Local Florists And Designers To Decorate Storowton Village For "Yuletide" Festival

The 19th century buildings at Eastern States Exposition's Storowton Village Museum will be festively decorated for the Village's annual winter holiday festival, "Yuletide at Storowton," thanks to several area florists and designers.

Period holiday decorations will be provided by William Burrows Florist, Inc. of Longmeadow, Floral Concepts by Tom of Agawam, J&L Presentations of Westfield, and the Full Circle Farm of Suffield, Connecticut. The celebration is free and takes place December 5th and 6th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Generously donating their time, talent, and materials, each will decorate a historic building in the Village.

William Burrows Florist, Inc. will transform the Potter Mansion Dining Room into a holiday oasis. The center of the room will feature an antique post used to support the ceiling while dances were held in the ballroom directly above the dining room in the c. 1776 mansion.

Floral Concepts by Tom will deck the Red Barn in seasonal splendor using winter greens, berries, and cones to create their theme, "Holiday Barn Dance," for "Santa's Barn."

J&L Presentations of Westfield will fashion a "Woodland Holiday" in the Eddy Law Office using peacock and pheasant feathers, pine cones, seed balls, and nuts to create a colorful, fragrant atmosphere.

Full Circle Farm of Suffield, Connecticut will decorate the School House using greens, bark with an owl's nest hole, and winter birds that are native to the area for their theme, "Woods in Winter."

The Jack Frost "Welcome the Winter" parade will kick off the Yuletide event Saturday at 11:30 a.m. Adults and children may dress in their favorite interpretation of winter and join in a parade around the Village Green to compete for prizes. Rain date for the parade is Sunday at 11:30 a.m.

The Village will be bustling with a variety of activities that will fill visitors with holiday cheer throughout the two-day occasion, including tours of the beautifully decorated historic buildings, storytelling, musical performances, lectures, 19th century craft demonstrations, ice sculpting, and barnyard animals to pet. Caroling and a tree lighting ceremony will round out the festivities at 4:00 p.m. on the Gazebo and children will have a chance to visit with an old-fashioned Santa throughout each day.

Gifts and holiday decorations will also be for sale throughout the Village. Delectable treats are available in the Holiday Sweet Shoppe in Potter Mansion and holiday gift items may be purchased at the Storowton Village Gift Shop in the Phillips House. The Storowton Village Gift Shop will also be open for extended holiday hours through December 19th: Monday through Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

*Our deadline is each
Tuesday at 12:00 noon...
ADVERTISER NEWS!!!*

* * *

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Gift Shop hours December 21st-24th will be 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The Gift Shop will return to regular winter hours (with the exception of holidays), Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

The entire family will delight in the beauty of an old-fashioned holiday at "Yuletide at Storowton," Storowton Village Museum's gift to the community. Additional events taking place on the exposition grounds December 5th and 6th are the **New England Holiday Antique Show** in the Young Building from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and the **New England Yuletide Craft Spectacular** in the Stroh Building from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The Village will also offer free, guided **Holiday House Tours** December 7th-12th from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., providing visitors with an opportunity to enjoy the Village's quaint dwellings beautifully decorated for the season. Tours may be combined with a hearty lunch at **Storowton Tavern**.

For more information on Yuletide events, call the Village at (413) 787-0136 or Eastern States Exposition at (413) 737-2443.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, November 30th: Meatballs and ziti, broccoli and cauliflower, rudi roll, banana.

(For the December 1st through December 4th lunch menus, call the Agawam Senior Center at 786-0400, ext. 242.)

Mrs. Claus To Visit Ag. Public Library

Mrs. Claus will visit the Agawam Library on Saturday, December 12th, from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

Agawam and Feeding Hills preschoolers who are "true believers" are invited to bring their parents to the library's Community Room and chat with her. Cameras are welcome.

PREREGISTRATION IS A MUST. CALL 789-1550, OR VISIT THE LIBRARY TO SIGN UP.

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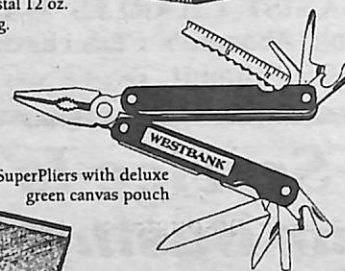
As the only independent and locally owned commercial bank in Western Massachusetts, our commitment is to the communities we serve... That's not just lip service - we put our money where our mouth is. So stop in and register to win one of ten \$50.00 Gift Certificates to local merchants.

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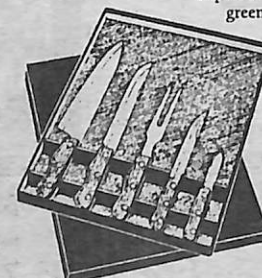
Shades of green and antique white are combined beautifully for this functional wren house.



24% full-leaded crystal 12 oz. mug.

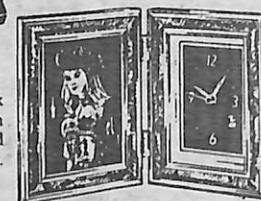


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MEMBER FDIC



Church News



AT THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB'S 60th anniversary celebration (from left to right): Father William Lunney (Parochial Vicar), Betsey Ciempa (President of the Catholic Women's Club), Father Howard McCormick (Pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church), The Most Reverend Bishop Thomas L. Dupre, Sister Frances White, Sister Frances Gloster, and Reverend William Hamilton. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ORGANIST CHARLES MANISCALCHI (far left) and Emile Grenier (far right) with Catholic Women's Club charter members Celia Menard, Phyllis Fenton, Pauline Paquette, and Jane Schmidt. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Commemorating Its History... Catholic Women's Celebrates Its 60th Anniversary

On Monday evening, November 9th, altar servers Karyn and Kristan Heaton led charter members Phyllis Featon and Celia Menard, 17 past presidents, the Board of the Catholic Women's Club of Agawam, and the clergy in procession down the aisle of St. John the Evangelist Church in prelude to the Liturgy of Celebration, the principal event of the 60th anniversary of the club's founding.

The Most Reverend Thomas L. Dupre, Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield, was the principal celebrant of the Mass. Rev. Howard McCormick, Pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church, and Rev. William Lunney, Parochial Vicar, were concelebrants.

Rev. William Hamilton was Master of Ceremonies. Bernice Beck, Theresa Lovotti, and Jacqueline Touissant were readers. Gift bearers were Jane Durkan and Annette Phaneuf. Soloist was Sr. Frances White, S.S.J., and Charles Maniscalchi was the organist.

A delicious stuffed chicken breast dinner by Creative Caterers was served in the beautifully decorated Parish Center to the 139 members and guests present.

President Betsey Ciempa presided over the program that followed. Bishop Dupre, the main speaker, congratulated the members, past and present, for all they have contributed to church and community. He also shared some of the highlights of his recent visit in Rome.

A rousing round of applause was given to chairwoman Gloria Colby, co-chairwoman Penny DeForge, and the following committee members who planned the 60th anniversary celebration: Eleanor Balboni, Alice Buell, Carolyn Capitanio, Lillian Doyle, Rosemarie Fazio, Adele Gallano, Martha Jerry, Stella Longhi, Theresa Longo, Joan Malinoski, Lorraine Maniscalchi, Pauline Paquette, Barbara Pfau, Carol Pignatare, Paula Raiche, Jane Schmidt, and Sr. Frances White. Betsey Ciempa was honorary chairwoman.

*The AAN wishes
all of its readers
a happy and healthy
Thanksgiving...*

* * *

Polish American Club of Agawam

139 Southwick Street
Feeding Hills

(413) 786-0973

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SARAT FORD

245 Springfield Street
Agawam

Church News - continued...

Congratulations, Catholic Women's Club...



IN LEFT PHOTO: Catholic Women's Club board members who helped to plan the 60th anniversary celebration - Alice Buell, Carol Pignatare, Eleanor Balboni, Barbara Pfau, Terry Longo, and Marty Jerry. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Gloria Colby (chairwoman of the event), Adele Gallano, Carolyn Capitanio, and Joan Malinoski. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Our office will be closed from Thursday, November 26th, through Sunday, November 29th. We will reopen on Monday, November 30th, at 7:00 a.m.

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Hadley, MA 01035
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"Church News" is just one more reason why you turn our pages ... AAN!!!



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Look Who's Visiting Kinney's Portrait Studio
Once Again?? Santa Claus!!
335 Walnut St. Ext., 2nd Floor, Room 208
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Bring Your Kids In To Have Their Picture Taken With Santa On December 5th From 9 A.M. To 1 P.M.

Wallets — Only \$1.50 Each (Need To Order In Even Numbers)
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786-4340

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• Something New!!!

To Send To Loved Ones!!!

- Festive "Insert" Photo Cards. It Leaves You Room To Write a Personal Message! They Come In 10 Packs!

Card With Envelope
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\$17.50 Per Pack

★ Cards Not Sold Separately!!!

Church News - continued...



Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the New Life
Christian Church,
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
(413) 786-8735

O Give Thanks To The Lord...

Psalm 100 tells us to make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth. Enter His gates with Thanksgiving, and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name.

As we take a day away from our hectic lives to celebrate Thanksgiving, each of us has much to be thankful for. There are those who have suffered pain, perhaps greatly so, but even they will find their pain relieved if they turn their hearts and voices upward to offer Thanksgiving to God. Another Psalm, Psalm 107, provides us a good guide to offer Thanksgiving.

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever. The world we live in can be a tough place. Sad things happen. Bad things happen, even to good people. That is not God's fault. Being angry at God doesn't help; it only makes matters worse. In spite of our pain, God is good and His love endures.

Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town. They cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them from their distress. Whether one wanders physically or spiritually, God is never far from any of us. He yearns to reach out to the lost and lonely, and lead them to safety.

Some sat in darkness and in gloom, prisoners in misery and irons. Whether a person's prison has iron gates or medical tubes, or is some form of depression, God and His love is still their hope! For He shatters the doors of bronze, and cuts in two the bars of iron.

Some were sick through their sinful ways, and because of their inequities endured affliction. There really is a price to be paid for sin. Sometimes people avoid paying the piper for a while, but not forever. The Bible says, But God proves His love for us in that while we still were sinners, Christ died for us. All the sin-sick soul must do is look beyond itself to the hand of God stretched out.

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He saved them from their distress; He sent out His word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction. It is not God's will that anyone perish.

Some went down to the sea in ships, doing business on the mighty waters; they mounted up to heaven, they went down to the depths; their courage melted away in their calamity and they were at their wit's end.

Life does not always go the way we planned. Even the best laid plans can go awry. Where is it written we have to go it alone? We don't!

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He brought them out of their distress; He made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea He hushed. Then they were glad because they had quiet, and He brought them to their desired haven.

None of our lives are without difficulty. Whether we are rich or poor, healthy or not, we can always think of ways in which we think our lives would be better.

Do we sometimes make the mistake of concentrating on what we don't have, rather than being grateful for what we do have and do enjoy? Where is it written that God has to bless us at all? It is not.

However, out of His immeasurable love God has bestowed many blessings on us, individually as well as a society. The world and all its component parts are all gifts of grace bestowed upon us by our loving Creator.

Let those who are wise give heed to these things, and consider the steadfast love of the Lord.

BIG SALE Slated For Wednesday, December 2nd, At First Baptist's Trading Post

The First Baptist Church of Agawam, corner of Main and Elm Sts., will be hosting its first of the season BIG SALE at the church's Trading Post on Wednesday, December 2nd from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Featured will be 50 percent-off bargains upstairs and 20 percent-off downstairs, as well as a \$4 Bag Sale from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Don't miss the outstanding buys on stylish

stouts; misses, juniors, and men's apparel; children's clothing; baby articles; holiday attire; coats and jackets; jerseys; sweaters; blouses; jeans; slacks; shoes, boots, and skates; household items; and knickknacks.

We hope to see you there!!

Parish News And Events From St. John's Church

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

With the first Sunday of Advent next week, we will begin this week with a special adult education program: Sunday to Sunday. This is a video presentation of the following week's Scriptures, giving a brief explanation of the readings with some insights to get ready to listen.

It will be on Tuesday mornings at Sacred Heart at 8:30 a.m. (right after the 8:00 Mass) and Thursday night at 7:00 at St. John's in the Father Joyce Room. We have started using this program on Friday mornings after the 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. John's and will probably continue to do so (as long as their is interest).

Come join us for any of these sessions. We are sure you will find them interesting, so be sure to check them out on Tuesday morning, Thursday evening, or Friday morning for just about an hour.

ST. JOHN'S BAZAAR UPDATE

Only one more week to make your raffle returns for the December 5th drawing for \$500, \$300, and \$200 prizes.

AGAWAM CATHOLIC SINGLES

The group meets on the second Thursday of every month. Here is the schedule for December: December 5th: Holiday Pops. Call Joanne at 789-2945).

December 10th: Pot Luck Christmas Party at 6:30 p.m. (\$5 gift is optional). Call Barbra at 786-2660, or Carol at 789-2018.

December 20th: Assist with Giving Tree project after 11:30 Mass.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

We have begun our support group here at St. John's. This is for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one.

Beginning in December, we will meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. For more information, call the Pastoral Office at 786-4499.

THE GIVING TREE

Our parish will be offering the Giving Tree project again this year, and we anticipate your continuing generosity.

People are still talking about last year and how good it made everyone feel.

All the hometown news with us ... AAN!!!

Roast Beef Dinner On December 5th

Operation Friendship of America, a non-profit youth cultural exchange program sponsored by the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, is having a Roast Beef Dinner on December 5th.

Dinner consists of roast beef and gravy, mashed potatoes, tossed salad, vegetable, bread and butter, dessert, and beverage.

Servings are from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Adults are \$7.25, children under 12 are \$4, and children under five are free.

Reservations are appreciated. Call 786-8743. Walk-ins are welcome.

Best local news with us, every week...

Pizzeria Restaurant

835 Suffield St. (Rte. 75), Agawam

Too Busy To Cook?
The Holidays Are Coming—
Let Us **DO THE WORK FOR YOU!**

Parthenon Is Now Catering For All Occasions, House Parties, Office Parties, Pizza Parties... Whenever You Have A Gang Coming!

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All Major Credit Cards Accepted
Open Daily 11 A.M. - 10 P.M.

We Are Closed On Thanksgiving Day
Have A Happy And Healthy Thanksgiving Holiday!

Full Menu Available To Please Everyone's Taste!

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\$2 Off Any Large Pizza
(Not In Conjunction With Any Other Coupons)
Must Present Coupon — Expires 12/31/98

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AAN Everyday Special...

Buy 2 Grinders, Get 1 FREE
— Higher Price Prevails —
(Not In Conjunction With Any Other Coupons)
Must Present Coupon — Expires 12/31/98

For Take-Out Call 786-7941

Church News - continued...

Two Local Churches To Host Advent Series Starting Nov. 29th

The Agawam Congregational Church and the First Baptist Church of Agawam warmly invite all in our community to join in celebrating the season of Advent. This fun-filled, no-cost series will begin on Sunday evening, November 29th.

Led by Rev. Curt Fuller and Dan Pender of the Congregational Church, and by Rev. Rick Barnes of the Baptist Church, participants will make "angel" crafts to keep or share with a stranger. We will also help to create a "Jesse Tree, and come to explore its rich symbolic meanings."

We will watch in wonder and enlightenment as the youth groups from both churches join together to perform an Advent drama. And the series wouldn't be complete without singing songs of the season to our neighbors, friends, and strangers.

This exciting series is designed for persons of all ages, and childcare will also be provided.

Each series will be held on Sunday evening from 6:00 until 7:30 p.m. The November 29th and December 6th series will be held at the First Baptist Church (located at 760 Main Street), while the Congregational Church (located at 745 Main Street) will host the December 13th and 20th series. Refreshments will be served at the close of each series.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to call either Agawam Congregational at 786-7111 or First Baptist at 786-7300.

Thanksgiving Service To Be Celebrated At St. David's Church

St. David's Episcopal Church welcomes the public to celebrate Thanksgiving at a service of Holy Communion to be held on the Eve of Thanksgiving, Wednesday, November 25th, at 7:00 p.m.

The service will include the singing of familiar hymns, a time for prayer, and a sharing of thanksgivings brought by all in attendance, both those written by adults and older children and those drawn by younger children.

The time of worship will conclude with the Holy Communion, open to all baptized believers who are used to receiving communion in their home church.

St. David's is located at 699 Springfield Street in Feeding Hills. For more information about the service, please call St. David's at 786-6133.

ADVERTISER NEWS

**O give thanks
to the Lord,
for He is good;
for His steadfast
love endures
forever.**

News & Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m.

We will welcome Diane Ball on November 29th as our guest speaker.

Children are welcome to attend worship with their parents, leaving at the designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

Following worship on Sunday, November 29th, the Board of Deacons invites us to gather together in Griswold Hall following worship to make Advent wreaths.

The Agawam Parish Association will meet on Monday, November 30th, at 7:30 p.m. at this church.

Operation Friendship will serve a Roast Beef Dinner here at the church on Saturday, December 5th, from 5:00 until 6:30 p.m.

Call Sharon Rozanski at 786-8743 for reservations.

There are several organizations which use this building. Please make sure that anything left at this church is clearly marked so everyone will know who it belongs to and what it is for.

This includes food in the refrigerators and freezer, also.

The Board of Christian Education will hold another movie night on Friday, December 11th, at 7:00 p.m.

On the calendar:

Sunday, November 29th: 10:00 a.m., First Sunday of Advent; Advent wreath making following morning worship.

Monday, November 30th: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Agawam Parish Association.

Tuesday, December 1st: 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:00 p.m., Stewardship/Missions.

Wednesday, December 2nd: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

Thursday, December 3rd: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

*Have a
happy and
healthy
Thanksgiving
holiday...
AAN!!!*

Thanksgiving Theme To Continue At Valley Comm. Church

The celebration of Thanksgiving continues at Valley Community Church. This Sunday, November 29th, Rev. Robert Loesch will share a message taken both from the Old Testament book of Isaiah (2:1-5) and the New Testament epistle, II Corinthians (1:1-11), entitled, "Giving Thanks Every Day."

The Senior Choir will share their ministry with the congregation in the singing of "All the Earth Will Sing for Joy." We invite everyone to join us for worship at 9:30 a.m.

Our church children will leave the Sanctuary for Dunn Hall at 10:00 a.m. There they will hear and participate in a worship service geared especially for them.

All are welcome to join in Coffee and Fellowship at 10:30 a.m., also in Dunn Hall.

Church School begins at 11:00 sharp, with classes for children from kindergarten through the sixth grade. Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers throughout the morning.

The Board of Missions and Social Action will be busy throughout Sunday afternoon as they begin preparing supper for the Springfield Loaves & Fishes. Anyone who would like to help cook or serve is asked to speak to a board member.

The Junior Choir will meet on Wednesday evening from 6:15 until 7:00 p.m. They are very busy rehearsing a variety of Christmas music, which they will share throughout the next few weeks.

The Senior Choir will pick up the tempo and the volume at 7:00 p.m. as they, too, rehearse their holiday music. The congregation is, once again, in for some special treats throughout this Advent and Christmas season.

Valley Community Church is an inter-denominational church, filled with people from various religious backgrounds, who have all proclaimed Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. We invite any of our neighbors who are looking for a church home, to come and worship with us.

The church is located "high on a hilltop" at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.



**Y'all join us
for a
"Down-Home"
Country
Dinner...**

Baked Beans & Ham Dinner

Monday, Dec 7, 1998 • 6:00 p.m.
\$ 7.00 - Adults • \$ 3.00 Children under 12

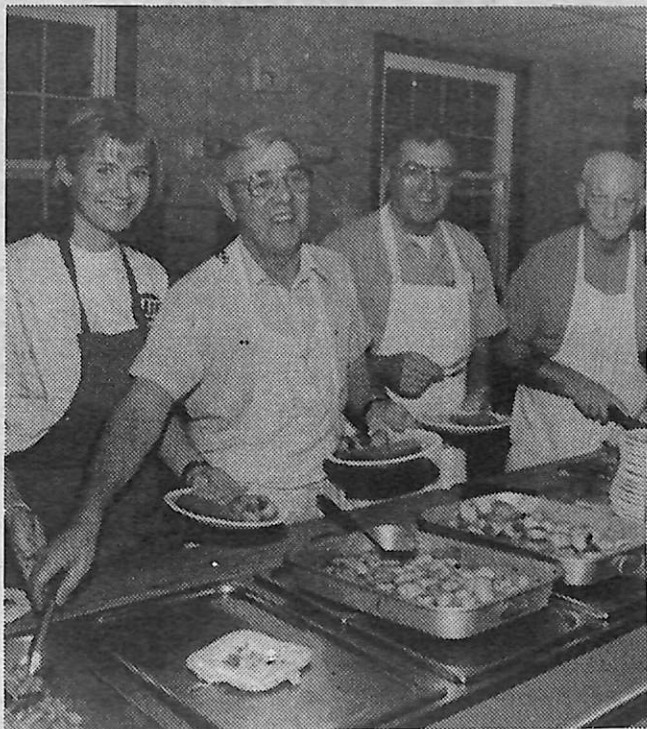
Menu includes:

- Baked Beans & Ham
- Garden Salad
- Dessert
- Cole Slaw
- Bread & Butter
- Juice, Tea & Coffee

**Tickets are available in advance
at all services or by calling (413) 786-6133
(Reservations recommended, but not required)**

*St. David's
Episcopal Church*

699 Springfield Street • Feeding Hills, MA 01030 • (413) 786-6133

Church News - continued...**Pot Roast Dinner...**

VOLUNTEERS Lucy Young, Matt Blackak, Dick Bassett, and Ed Judkins at the Agawam Congregational Church's pot roast dinner on Saturday, November 14th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



VIRGINIA MARKHAM was one of the servers at the pot roast dinner held recently at Agawam Congregational Church. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



"WOULD YOU LIKE SOME DESSERT?": Dorothy Randolph and Carol Allen at Agawam Congregational's pot roast dinner. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

ADVERTISER NEWS

St. John's Annual Christmas Bazaar On December 5th

An array of holiday delights ranging from wreaths to sparkling jewelry, from savory baked goods to plants, candy, and toys, are designed to enflame the Christmas spirit of those who attend the annual Christmas Bazaar of St. John the Evangelist Church, Agawam.

The doors of the social center behind the church on Main Street will open to the public at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 5th, and close at 3:00 p.m. Parishioners have been working all year toward this event.

Those who choose to browse at the Bazaar can break up their shopping with a light lunch in an adjacent dining room. The biggest elf of them all, Santa Claus, will be on hand to meet the children and their folks as Christmas music permeates the hall.

Paula Raiche and Gloria Colby are the co-chairwomen of this special parish event. Assisting are committees headed by the following chairpersons: Attic Treasures, Jane Schmidt and Pauline Paquette; The Bake Booth, Elaine Smith; Christmas Booth, Kay Capitanio, Mickey Morin, and Adelle Gallano; Jewelry Booth, Bernice Consolini; Toys, Paula Raiche; and Candy Booth, Joan Malinowski.

Also, hand-knitted articles, Barbara Gingras; hand-sewn gifts at the Needle and Thread Booth, Lillian Doyle; and plants, Angela Beaudry.

There will be a number of raffles, including the Bountiful Basket, Bea Hamel and Alwyn Shepard, co-chairwomen; the parish cash drawing, Lorraine Maniscalchi and Charlene Moretti, co-chairwomen; and a clock raffle, Rita Moore, chairwoman.

Paula Raiche is in charge of posters, and Peggy Shoemaker is handling the publicity.

Grace Lutheran Church Slates 20th Annual Holiday Fair

Grace Lutheran Church will hold its 20th Annual Holiday Fair on Saturday, December 5th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the church hall, 1552 Westfield Street, West Springfield.

The fair will feature local craft persons, a Beanie Babie Booth, and traditional church shops. There will be a sausage grinder luncheon served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Proceeds from this event will go to the Women in Christ group to help fund their missions.

Best local news ... AAN!!!

Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational

The Christmas Eve Pageant Service rehearsals will begin on Saturday, November 28th, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Many people (young and old) are invited to participate.

Call the church office at 786-7111 if you would like to participate.

This Sunday, November 29th, is the First Sunday in Advent. The Worship Service begins at 10:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Allen Tickham will be the Guest Minister. His Sermon will be "Great Expectations," taken from Text: Isaiah 2:1-5 and Matthew 24:36-44.

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is bar soap.

Items collected will be donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

Reminder: pick up your Christmas wreath on Sunday, November 29th, following the Worship Service.

It's time to order your poinsettias! The Flower Committee is now taking orders for poinsettias to adorn the sanctuary with the Poinsettia Tree on December 20th at the Christmas Sunday Worship Service.

You may take your poinsettias home following the Worship Service. Please call the church office at 786-7111 to place an order, or at the Coffee Hour.

Sizes and prices are listed on the order form.

St. David's Church To Host Ham & Bean Dinner on Dec. 7th

St. David's Episcopal Church will be hosting a Baked Beans & Ham Dinner on Monday, December 7th at 6:00 p.m. The dinner will be held at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

The menu will include baked beans & ham, garden salad, coleslaw, bread & butter, coffee, tea, cold drinks, and desserts.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. These may be purchased in advance at St. David's or at the door.

Proceeds from this dinner will go towards the debt reduction of the new church building.

For more information, please call (413) 786-6133.

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Flavorite Sausage Roll (1 Lb. Roll)	79¢
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Frozen Swordfish Steaks	\$3.99 Lb.
Cooked Shrimp (Large Size - 31 To 40 Count)	\$8.95 Lb.
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(10 Lb. Bag)

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Land O' Lakes White American Cheese	\$2.99 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.39 Lb.
Hormel Genoa Salami	\$2.99 Lb.
Margherita Prosciutto	\$5.99 Lb.
Thumann's Gourmet Turkey Breast	\$4.99 Lb.
Krakus Imported Ham	\$3.99 Lb.
Austrian Alps Imported Swiss Cheese	\$2.99 Lb.
Russer Low Salt Ham	\$3.49 Lb.

PRODUCE

Long Green Celery (Bunch)	89¢
Icebert Lettuce (Head)	69¢
Large Slicing Tomatoes	99¢ Lb.
Fresh Yams	69¢ Lb.
Canadian Carrots (5 Lb. Bag)	99¢

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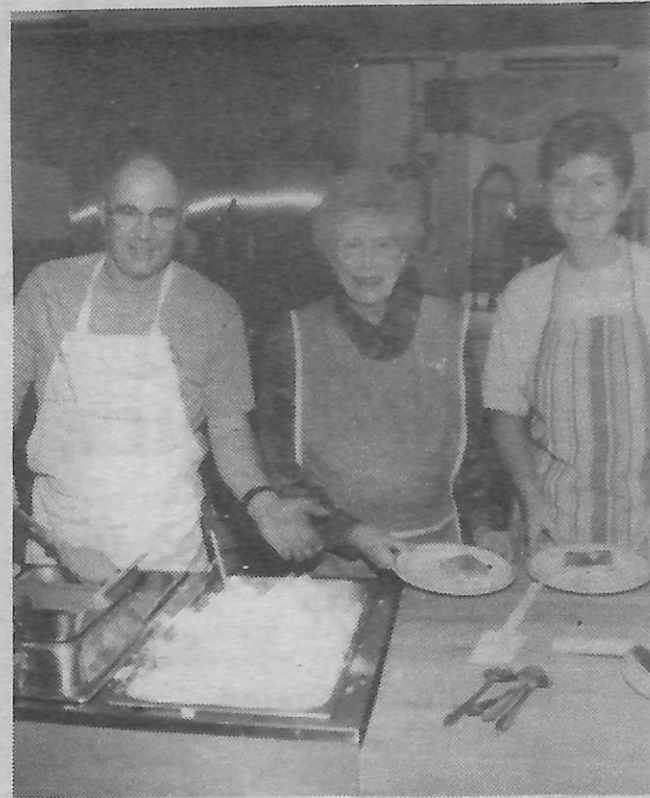
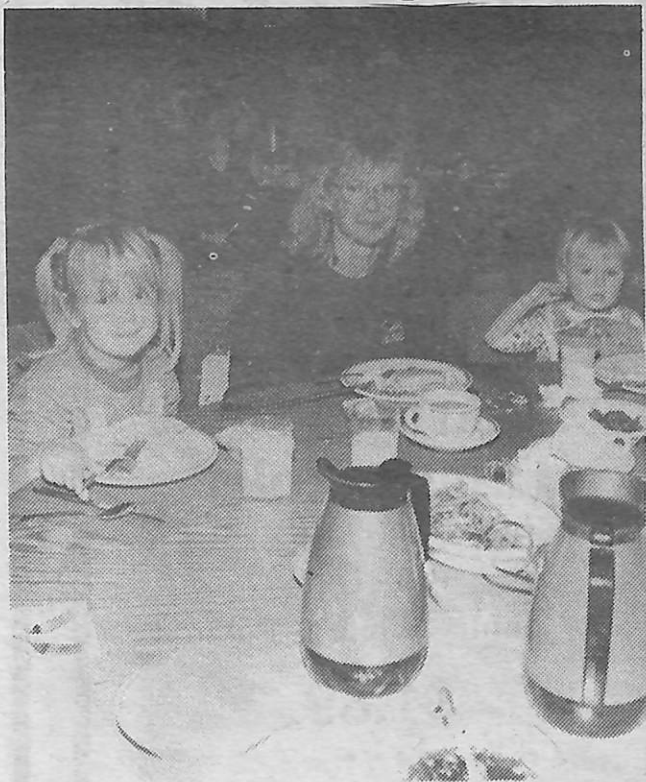
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The Staff Of
Agawam Public Market
Wishes Everyone A Happy
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Church News - continued...

At Feeding Hills Congregational Church's Chicken Pie Supper...



IN LEFT PHOTO: Amanda, Donota, and Rachel Benton. IN CENTER PHOTO: Shelley Rose. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Bill Rose, Bernice Burton, and Lani Kretschmar. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

New England Brass Quartet To Perform At Good Shepherd

The New England Brass Quartet is returning to the Church of the Good Shepherd's Brigham Hall, 214 Elm Street, West Springfield, for a festive concert, "Holiday Fanfare," on Sunday, December 6th, at 7:00 p.m.

We expect to welcome a full house for this delightful event as we did when they played to standing ovations in May of 1997. Be sure to get your reservations in as soon as possible!

For those who have not heard New England's premiere brass quartet before, you will not want to miss this event. Invite your friends and family to join us for a memorable start to the holiday season.

The quartet is excited about returning to Good Shepherd and has planned a program that will include ragtime, jazz, swing, and classical pieces, as well as traditional Christmas music and some new arrangements written just for this season.

We will again set up and decorate Brigham hall as a cabaret, and will be serving complimentary homemade desserts at intermission. With limited seating, this will be a sold-out event, so call today with your reservations.

Admission is \$10 for adults, and \$8 for seniors and students. For reservations and/or additional information, please call 734-1976.



MEMBERS OF THE New England Brass Quartet, who'll be performing at the Church of the Good Shepherd in West Springfield on Sunday, December 6th: Ken Longstreeth (Agawam Middle School music teacher), Brooks Holmes, John Smialek, and Steve Glover.



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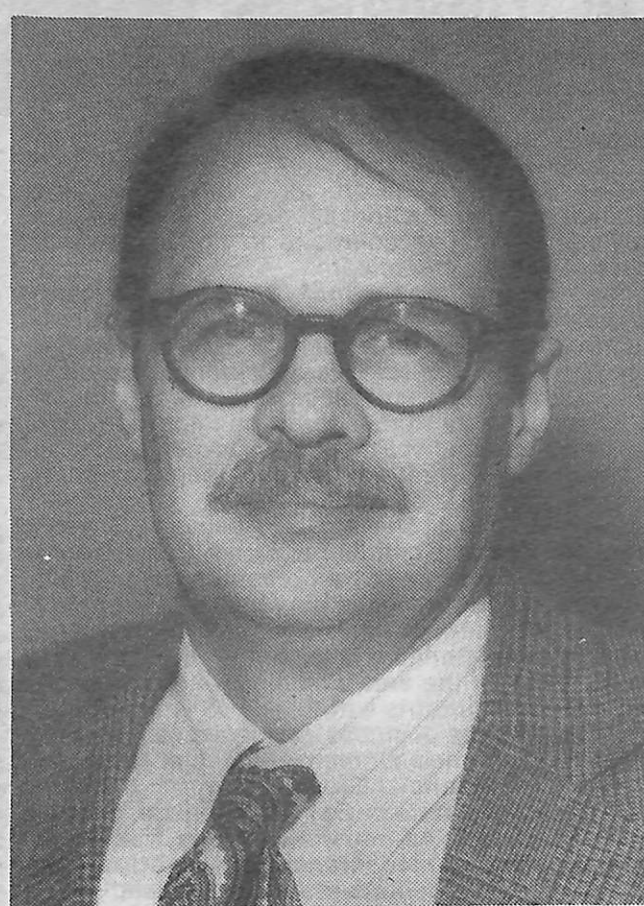
Spotlight On Business



MARK BARAN



ALICE BABCOCK



JOHN TREAT

Westfield Bank Adds Three New Executives

Westfield Bank announced the addition of Alice Babcock of West Springfield as Vice President of Marketing, Mark Baran of Chicopee as Assistant Vice President for Commercial Lending, and John Treat of Keene, New Hampshire as Manager of Information Systems.

Prior to joining Westfield Bank, Mrs. Babcock was Director of Community Banking at the Bank of South Windsor. Before that, she was Branch Administrator of Center Bank (now 1st Union) in Waterbury, Connecticut.

Mrs. Babcock started her career in banking at Bay Bank Valley (now BankBoston), where she worked for almost 20 years.

Baran was most recently an Assistant Vice President Commercial Lending at the Bank of Western Massachusetts. Before that, he was an Assistant Vice President in Loan Workout at Ludlow Savings.

Before joining Westfield Bank, Treat was the manager of Mainframe Operations at CFX Bank Corp. in Keene, New Hampshire, where he oversaw the in-house computer operations for a \$3.5 billion holding company.

Westfield Bank is a full service community bank with branch offices in Agawam, East Longmeadow, Southwick, West Springfield, and Westfield. A new office in downtown Springfield will open early in 1999.

* * *

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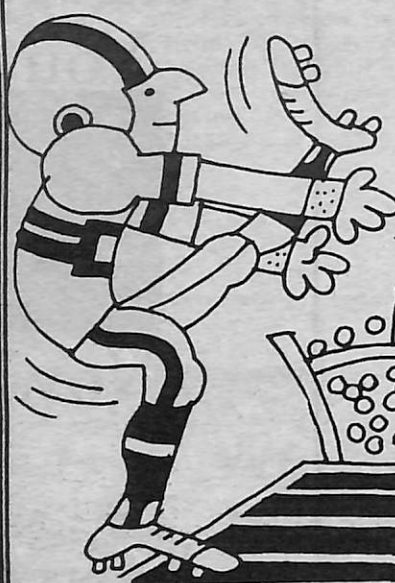
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Spotlight On Business - continued...**Sandra J. Grant Of F.H. Attends Forum In Washington, D.C.**

The Novak Financial Group has recently appointed Sandra J. Grant of Feeding Hills to represent the Springfield-based agency at the First National Forum on Long-Term Care held in Washington, D.C.

Grant serves as the official long-term care insurance specialist within the agency, where she provides alternative solutions to the increasing costs of nursing home care.

The conference, which was held from November 13th-15th in Washington, D.C., covered such pertinent information as new marketing techniques for long-term care insurance, creative sales strategies and improved management skills, among other timely topics. In addition, the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys launched the industry's first professional long-term care designation at the convention.

Prior to joining The Novak Financial Group, Grant served as Commercial Lines Sales Coordinator for the property and casualty agency of Field, Eddy and Bulkley in downtown Springfield. Prior to that, she worked as an agent at John Hancock Financial Services.

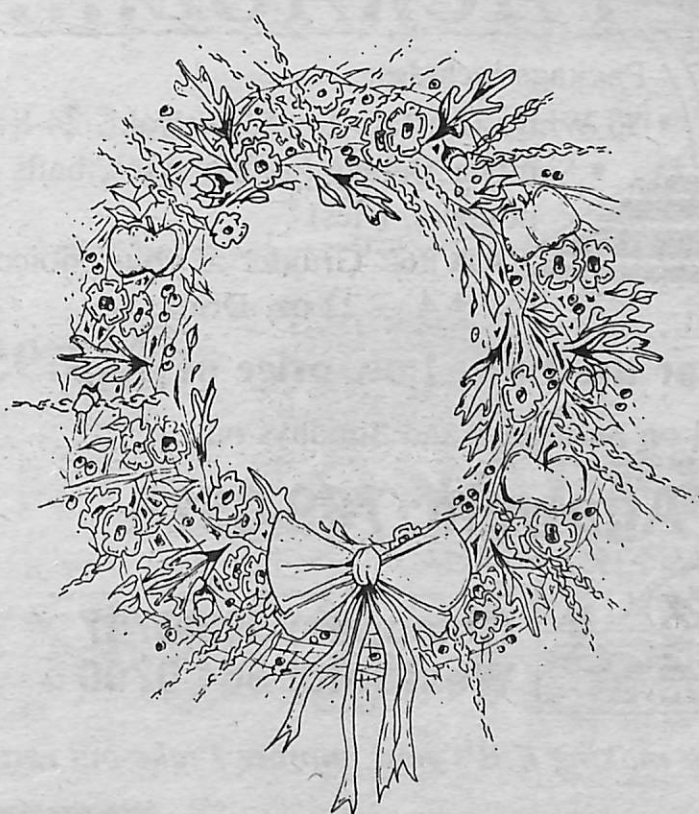
She is one of the area's leading long-term care insurance consultants with nearly 15 years in the financial services business. She is also a member of the newly-formed Women's Financial Network at the Novak Financial Group.

Grant is a graduate of Bay Path College, majoring in Business Administration. She has also achieved the professional designation of Registered Representative and is licensed with the states of Massachusetts and Connecticut, as well as the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD).

Established in 1851, MassMutual is one of the nation's leading insurance and financial service firms across the world, providing life insurance, disability income protection, retirement services, and money management for individuals, families, businesses, and institutions.

The company boasts more than 1,300 sales offices and approximately 100 agencies nationwide. The new Novak Financial Group agency prides itself on its cutting-edge management techniques and commitment to Western and Central MA clientele via high-quality products and services.

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rich with blessings.*



Tami Nelson, D.C.
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Feeding Hills, MA 01030
786-4820

**Legal Memo**

by

Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454

**CONTRACT****Auto Lease - Insurance Coverage**

Where (1) a plaintiff suffered injuries in an auto accident that occurred between his car and a vehicle leased by a defendant motorist from a codefendant rental company and (2) the defendant motorist had not maintained insurance coverage as required by the auto rental agreement, the Court held that the codefendant rental company may be held jointly and severally liable, with the defendant motorist, for the plaintiff's damages.

"Responsibility of automobile leasing companies for uninsured lessees has not been addressed by Massachusetts' courts," the Court said. "Therefore, it is necessary to look to other jurisdictions for assistance. Several states have started a movement towards holding lessors liable for accidents by their lessees where the lessee does not obey the leasing agreement and maintain the proper insurance.

"Absent Massachusetts precedent, the court applied the decisions of other states. In the present case, the defendant leased an automobile from the codefendant. Under the terms of the leasing agreement, the defendant was required to maintain liability insurance of \$100,000.00/\$300,000.00 for bodily injury and \$50,000.00 for property damage. At the time of the accident, the defendant had failed to maintain the required insurance. Thus applying the decisions rendered in other states, the codefendant, in failing to ensure that the lessee (defendant) procured the contractual liability insurance, is liable to the plaintiff for the subsequent injuries sustained from the collision just as the defendant is," the Court concluded.

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Pam Savioli

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- Accessing the local real estate market and relocation network.
- Handling calls from people who may be more curious than serious about buying.
- Showing your home to the best prospects.
- Representing you during the offer process.
- Doing the necessary paperwork and legwork.
- Guiding you through settlement.

For more information about selling your home, call Pam Savioli at (413) 748-7565.

Our next deadline is Tuesday, December 1st, at 12:00 noon; however, we would appreciate any articles that could be brought in on Monday, November 30th.

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For Your Health

Western Mass. Epilepsy Awareness Committee Receives Nat'l. Award

The Children's Miracle Network at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital has received a \$7,000 check from the Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee to further the hospital's work on behalf of children with epilepsy.

Founded by Carol Pietroniro of Feeding Hills, whose 12 year-old son is afflicted with epilepsy, the Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee is a grassroots organization formed five years ago to raise awareness of epilepsy and to provide funds for research.

Epilepsy, which can affect anyone at an age, at any time, is a brain disorder often characterized by seizures. Research and improved medical treatments now make a normal life possible for the majority of people with epilepsy, but many are still discriminated against socially. Many others are still receiving less than optimal treatment for their seizure disorders and could benefit from a medical reevaluation of their case.

Recently, the efforts of Carol's group, the Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee, were recognized by the Epilepsy Foundation of America, which honored the group with its National Community Awareness Award in September at their national convention in San Antonio, Texas. The group was nominated for the award by the Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Each year, the Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee raises funds by sponsoring a dinner dance and silent auction at Chez Josef in Agawam. Since 1995, the group has raised over \$75,000 to benefit Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital, Boston Children's Hospital, and the Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

The group presented their \$7,000 check to Dr. Anthony H. Jackson, chief of Pediatric Neurology at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital, on Friday, December 13th on the Miracle Playdeck.

"I am happy to accept this check on behalf of area children and the hospital's ongoing efforts to expand services and further improve care for children with epilepsy," said Dr. Jackson, who is assisted in his department by Drs. Joseph H. Donnelly and Herbert E. Gilmore.

The Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee will hold its fifth annual fundraiser at Chez Josef on Feb. 27th. All proceeds from next year's fundraiser will be used to help fund the first-ever epilepsy camp for children in Massachusetts.

The Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, headquartered in Boston, is the only not-for-profit organization in these states specifically dedicated to the welfare of more than 70,000 persons with epilepsy/seizure disorders in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month.

Responding To Noble Hospital's Requests...

Westfield Bank Supports Visiting Nurses & Hospice

Donald Williams, President of Westfield Bank, has announced that the bank has responded to the request for funds of Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services (formerly known as WestHills Home Health and Hospice, Inc.) by donating \$10,000. According to Williams, "The money will be used to assist patients and their families who are experiencing a difficult period of life."

At the check presentation, Kimberly Barbaro Andrews, Executive Director of Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services, stated, "We are proud of our ability to provide quality care to individuals and their families in their hour of need." She continued, "We realize that we cannot do so without help from local businesses such as Westfield Bank."

Alice M. Babcock, Vice President and Marketing Director of Westfield Bank, noted, "As one of the largest independent banks in our area, we recognize the need to support our communities with donations such as these."

Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services is located at 77 Mill Street in Westfield. It is a non-profit subsidiary of Noble Health Systems Inc.

Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services provides support to 500 patients a year. For more information, call Ms. Andrews at 562-7049.

Westfield Bank, with assets of more than \$580 million, is headquartered in Westfield with branch offices located in West Springfield, Agawam, Southwick, and East Longmeadow.

A new office will be opening in downtown Springfield in January 1999.

Support Groups Offered At The Agawam Senior Ctr.

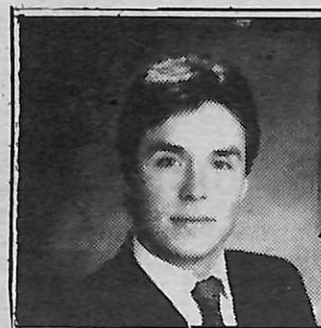
The **Caregivers Support Group** continues at the Agawam Senior Center on the **third Monday** of each month from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

If you are caring for your spouse, an elderly parent, or relative, come and share with us or receive some support.

For more information, please call Gail Freeman at 789-7199.

The **Mental Illness Support Group** continues at the Agawam Senior Center on the **last Monday** of every month from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

For more information, please call Gail Freeman at 789-7199.



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

Helpful Hints For Shoveling Snow...

Before we know it, the first major snowstorm of the season will be upon us. And, with the arrival of "Old Man Winter," there will be the aches and pains commonly associated with shoveling snow. Arms, legs, and backs will suffer as a result of tackling the "white stuff."

Before you pick up your cold-weather shovels, please take note of the following timely and helpful reminders regarding snow shoveling.

Always exercise caution. Shoveling snow is one of the most physically stressful activities to your lumbar spine or low back. It is certainly one activity that will further injure an already weak low back.

The elderly are advised to give up shoveling altogether. Find a neighborhood kid who is ambitious enough to help you. Have your driveway plowed by a professional. If that is not possible and you insist on shoveling your own driveway, then condition your back for the winter season.

Have a chiropractic examination. Perhaps your spine may benefit from chiropractic treatment. During the shoveling season, have regular chiropractic care to insure integrity of the back.

The same snow which causes heart stress also causes dangerous stress to the discs in the spine of the shoveler. When you consider that a shovel of snow weighs from five to seven pounds, you realize the tremendous accumulative weight one has to lift to clear even a small area. The average driveway or walk will hold hundreds of pounds of snow.

Try these helpful hints:

1. Dress warmly, but don't bundle up so as to make it difficult and awkward for you to move naturally.
2. Use a lightweight pusher-type shovel. Spray it with Teflon so snow will not cling to it.
3. Avoid sudden twists of the torso. Move the entire body.
4. Keep your back straight when you lift. Use your legs rather than your back.
5. Work slowly.
6. If you feel a twinge of back pain, stop completely and go inside the house, sit down, and rest.

If pain persists, call the **SCHLAFER CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE**, 192 Shoemaker Lane, tel. no. (413) 789-1369. We care about you!

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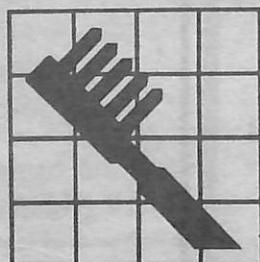
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We are pleased to announce
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For Your Health - continued...

Mercy Hospital Offers Help For Children Of Cancer Patients

Learning that your parent has cancer is difficult for children of all ages. But discovering you're not alone and sharing your feelings and concerns with others in the same situation can help.

Children of area cancer patients have that opportunity, through a support group which meets monthly at Mercy Hospital in Springfield. The group's next meeting will take place on Monday, December 7th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the hospital's Deliso Conference Center.

Meetings are led by skilled facilitators from Mercy Hospital's Pastoral Care Department and are free of charge. Persons of all ages are welcome.

For more information, call the Pastoral Care Department at (413) 748-9453.

Breast Cancer Support Group To Meet At Mercy Hospital

The Breast Cancer Support Group, sponsored by the Women's Pavilion at Mercy Hospital, will meet on December 1st and 15th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Women's Pavilion, 299 Carew Street, Springfield.

The group is open to women who have experienced mastectomy and other breast surgery, or who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Family and friends are welcome to attend and share their experiences and concerns.

For more information, call the Women's Pavilion at (413) 748-9080.

Weldon Center Offers Support For Parents Of Hearing-Impaired Kids

The Weldon Center for Rehabilitation's support group for parents of hearing-impaired children will meet Thursday, December 3rd, at 6:30 p.m. in the Deliso Conference Center at Mercy Hospital, 299 Carew Street, Springfield.

Group-directed discussions offer parents the opportunity to share information and experiences in an understanding, supportive atmosphere.

For more information, call Kathleen Dow-Webster or Lois Osetek, M.S., CCC/A, at (413) 748-6840.

The office will be closed from Thursday, November 26th, through Sunday, November 29th. We will reopen on Monday, November 30th, at 7:00 a.m.

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Baystate Medical Center Offers The Following Tips On How To Deal With Holiday Stress

It's Saturday. You're inside the mall being pushed around like you're part of a pinball game. It takes at least 20 minutes in line at each store to purchase anything.

However, you can't even look forward to leaving the mall because your gas tank is empty from the 45 minutes you spent trying to find a parking spot and when you get home, you know your spouse is going to pressure you into spending the holidays with their side of the family.

Stress ... holiday style.

"As wonderful as the holidays can be, they can also be a stressful time for many. Added to the demands of an already hectic schedule, and especially for a family which is experiencing some internal conflict, even the simplest of situations can become overwhelming at this time of the year," said Dr. Benjamin Liptzin, chairman, Department of Psychiatry at Baystate Health System.

First your spouse.

According to Liptzin, one way of keeping the peace is to divide your time.

"One option might be to have holiday dinner with one family, then to share dessert with the other," he suggested. "Then next year you can switch courses."

Risa Gaull, wellness coordinator at Baystate Medical Center, added that when faced with

stressful situations or thoughts at any time of the year, such as the aggravation of long checkout lines, deep breathing will help you to focus and compose yourself.

Gaull suggested several preventive strategies such as eating right, reducing your caffeine intake, participating in regular physical activity, and getting enough sleep to help you better handle those extra stresses that may occur, especially during the holidays.

Remember, also, during the hectic times to take a minute to laugh. According to researchers, laughter is a great medicine to relieve stress because:

- it improves breathing by allowing the lungs to expand and take in more oxygen.
- it reduces blood pressure by improving circulation and speeding delivery of oxygen and nutrients throughout the body.
- it heightens mental function by increasing delivery of oxygen and production of a hormone that improves alertness and memory.
- it helps to relieve pain by increasing delivery of oxygen and the level of endorphins, the pain-killing chemicals produced by the brain.

So, take a minute when you are tired and stressed, and have a good, old-fashioned belly laugh. You will feel better and get a great energy boost.

New Mother's Support Group At Mercy's Family Life Center

New mothers are invited to share their questions and concerns at a New Mothers' Support Group, sponsored by the Family Life Center at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

The next sessions will take place on December 2nd and 16th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center lounge. At the December 2nd session, a guest speaker will discuss choking hazards and prevention.

Meetings are open to mothers with babies up to one year-old, and offer the opportunity to talk with professionals from the Family Life Center's Parenting Education Department and share experiences and information with other new mothers.

Topics include newborn care, infant feeding, postpartum concerns, returning to work, and parenting issues. Babies and partners are welcome to attend.

For more information and to register, call the Family Life Center at (413) 748-7295.

Course To Certify Nursing Assts. & Home Health Aides

The Westfield Vocational Technical High School Adult Allied Health Programs is currently accepting applicants for the January class for individuals who wish to become certified nursing assistants and home health aides.

Classes will be held in the mornings from Monday through Friday for 15 weeks. Interested individuals must be 22 years of age, income-eligible, and must be able to perform the physical responsibilities of the position.

The class is funded through the Hampden County Employment and Training Consortium and the Regional Employment Board.

Anyone interested should contact Sheila Harrington at 572-6454 for additional information about the program.

"For Your Health" is a weekly feature of the ADVERTISER NEWS...

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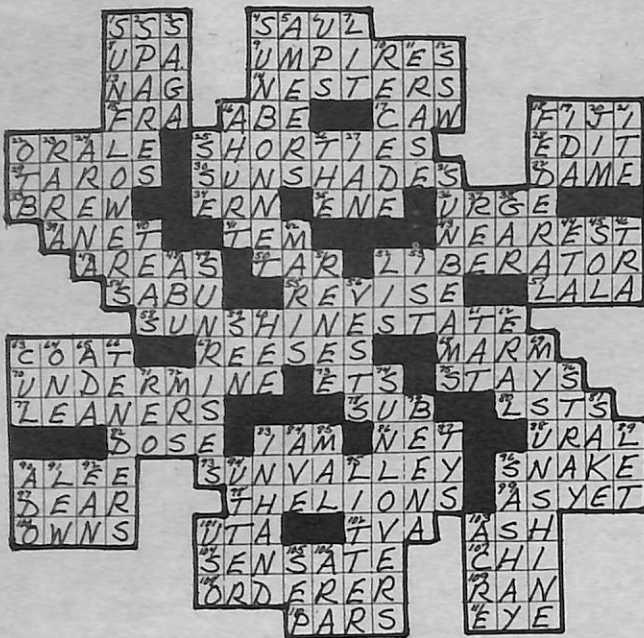


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- 11 Eucharistic vessel
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- 46 Actor Richard
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- 82 Actress Claire
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- 94 And others
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- 96 Hersey's bell town
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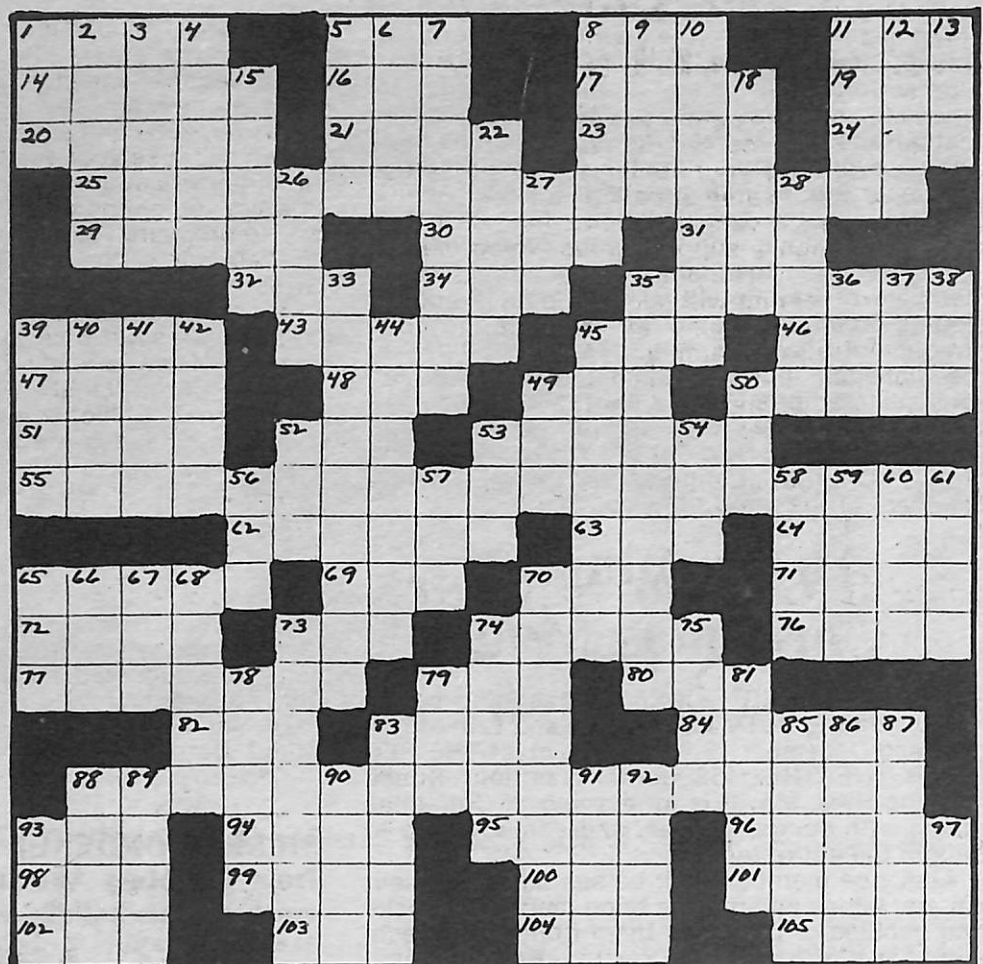
- 100 Buddhist sect
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- 27 Head covering
- 28 Made a choice
- 33 "— the Stone" (Douglas/Turner film)
- 35 UMW dues payer
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- 40 Sign
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- 44 Agent's take
- 45 Late
- 49 Tool shop container
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- 53 Tantrum
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- 57 Finish
- 58 Shortage
- 59 Holy image
- 60 French river
- 61 Goose in 9D
- 65 Brother or sister
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- 91 Composer Charles
- 92 Swampy regions
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Christmas Storytime At Agawam Library

Agawam and Feeding Hills preschoolers aged three and up are invited to the library for a special program on Thursday, December 10th from 10:00-10:45 a.m., featuring Christmas stories, songs, and crafts.

PREREGISTER FOR THIS EVENT BY TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8th, BY VISITING THE LIBRARY OR CALLING 789-1550.

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Bay Path College Plans Holiday Concert

The annual Bay Path College Holiday Concert and Service of Lights will take on an international flavor this year with the addition of Advent and Christmas music from the countries of Germany, France, Spain, Poland, Hungary, and England.

Selections will also include an African-American spiritual and a soloist performing Jester Hairston's *Mary's Little Boy Child*. The traditional event takes place on Wednesday, December 9th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Mills Theatre, Carr Hall on the Longmeadow campus and is open to the public with no charge for admission.

Featured in the concert are the student members of Bay Path's Chorale and its smaller singing group, the Keynotes. Both are under the direction of Charles E. Page, director of music at the college. Included during the event are seasonal readings by the college chaplains, Rev. Thomas Roan of First Church of Christ in Longmeadow and Rev. Dariusz Wudarski of Saint Mary's Church, Longmeadow, and student members of the Interfaith Council.

An Evening Of Christmas Magic

"TWAS THE NIGHT" will be presented by the Hilltop Players on December 11th and 12th at 7:30 p.m. and December 13th at 2:00 p.m. at THE RED DOOR THEATRE, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. It is an evening of Christmas magic with songs, dances, and comedy sure to delight the entire family.

Audience members will be seated at candlelit cabaret tables and may bring their own snacks and goodies or purchase them from our refreshment bar.

Performers will delight all members of the family with their spirited musical renditions of familiar Christmas carols. The Dancing Reindeer will appear for the third year in a row, and there will be many humorous surprises to complete the evening.

Take a moment from the frenzy of the holidays and join the Hilltop Players for "TWAS THE NIGHT." Tickets are \$7 for adults, and \$5 for seniors and children 12 and under.

Seating is limited. For reservations, call 789-2026.

Auditions For "Great Pretenders Revue"

Jerry and Cil Millette of Agawam announce that auditions for the "Great Pretenders Revue" will be held on Tuesday, December 15th from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in Bailey Hall at the First Church in Longmeadow.

Auditions are for chorus singers, dance, or specialty numbers. The show will be held June 10th through June 13th at the First Church in Longmeadow.

The Western Massachusetts Great Pretenders is a new, non-profit community theatre troupe with full participation by its members whose goals are to entertain audiences and enjoy themselves in the process.

Membership is not required to perform in this show. For further information, call Jerry or Cil Millette at 413-821-1309.

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SIERRA BORDENUK (left) and JENNIFER MCGRATH (right) are just two of the students from The Mary Ann Studio of Dance who will be performing in productions of "The Nutcracker" this holiday season.

Mary Ann Dance Students Performing In Area Productions Of "The Nutcracker"

Several students from The May Ann Studio of Dance are participating in the annual Christmas ballets held in our area.

Students performing in "The Nutcracker" are Rachel Kusiak and Jennifer McGrath, both members of the Mary Ann Sr. Rockettes' tap and jazz classes.

Jennifer has been a student of Mary Ann's for 10 years, and Rachel for six years. Both Jennifer and Rachel are a big help in assisting with the

studio's pre-school classes. They are dancing with the Albany Berkshire Ballet at Springfield Symphony Hall.

Also performing is Sierra Bordenuk, who has been with the studio for five years. She is dancing as a reindeer in the Pioneer Valley Ballet, which is held at The Academy of Music in Northampton.

"The Nutcracker" is a renowned ballet and is a traditional performance which gets everyone in the spirit of the Christmas holiday.

STAGE III To Hold Auditions For Young People's Cabaret At Red Door Theatre

STAGE III will hold auditions for a young people's cabaret entitled "NEXT STOP, NEW YORK!" on December 13th and 14th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at THE RED DOOR THEATRE, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

Auditioners must be between the ages of nine and 21, and must prepare a song from a Broadway musical. An accompanist will be provided, and all auditioners must sing.

"NEXT STOP, NEW YORK!" is a compilation of music and scenes which young people perform in

Broadway musicals. It is a cabaret in three acts, with the middle act depicting the trials and tribulations of trying to land a role on the New York stage.

Actors will be dancing, singing, and acting their way through this lively evening of entertainment for which the audience members will be seated at candlelit tables. It will be directed by Lyle Pearsons and Margie Secora.

For more information, call (413) 789-2026.



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Education



The first-grade class of Mrs. Ann Bellico at Phelps School would like to share Thanksgiving stories.

I like Thanksgiving Day. I help my mom cook Thanksgiving dinner. We eat turkey. I have fun at Thanksgiving. Me and my dad have fun.

Jennifer Ravi

I eat turkey on Thanksgiving. I go to my Grammy's and Grampy's house for Thanksgiving. Lots of people come. Mommy comes, too. I love turkey.

Nicole Theroux

On Thanksgiving Day we eat turkey and we like to eat corn. We have a good time. I like to eat brownies.

Meghan Hilbruner

I help set the table with the silverware. I like to help my dad make the turkey. I like to eat turkey and the mashed potatoes. I like to watch the parade.

Joseph Slaimen

Thanksgiving is when we eat turkey. We have Thanksgiving at my aunt's house. We have fun. We love the food. Maybe the turkey will run away!

Brian Toussaint

It's Thanksgiving. The table is set and the table has lots of food on it. The best thing on the table is the turkey!

Brittney Chechile

When we all get together we eat turkey. We have a big feast. All our friends come over.

John Forgette

Thanksgiving is fun. I help mom set the table. Turkey is good. I like it. Our big feast is good.

Katie Jergensen

Happy Thanksgiving! The guests come over. We have dessert and we play games. We eat turkey. I like corn. I like rice. I like squash. I like to see the table set.

Katie Geoffrion



MRS. ANN BELLICO'S first-grade "storytellers" at Phelps School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Thanksgiving is good. My mom comes over. Every Thanksgiving we go over Grandma's house and I play with my cousins.

Kris Carrington

Thanksgiving is my favorite time of year. Turkey is good to eat. Turkeys don't have brains. If they had a brain they would run away.

Katelyn Rose Landry

I like Thanksgiving because I get lots of food and I get to have my family over. It is fun! I like it when my cousins come over.

Britney Lampro

I like turkey. Turkey is good. The table is set. Everyone will eat.

Holly Walsh

At Thanksgiving I see turkey, cranberries, and apples. I see grapes, oranges, and tangerines. The best thing I see is dessert. It is a good day for families.

Kyle LaFor

On Thanksgiving it can snow. My grandma and grandpa come over. On Thanksgiving we eat turkey. I watch the balloon parade. It is a day for good things to eat.

Adam Howe

On Thanksgiving everyone goes to my aunt's house. I help her cook dinner. We make a special bread. I like eating the turkey. I like the wishbone.

Christopher Petropoulos

Happy Thanksgiving Day! I love Thanksgiving because I like turkey. The turkey is good. Mom and I like turkey. I like playing with my cousins.

James Guistimbelli

Thanksgiving is a special day. I help my dad stuff the turkey. I like Thanksgiving. I play Nintendo 64 with my cousin.

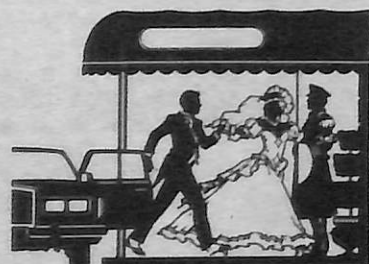
Cory Williams

I help my dad carve the turkey. I help my mom with the salad. I set the table. I watch the parade. My favorite dessert is cake and chocolate pudding. Thanksgiving is great!

Talia Saracino

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KID'S KORNER - from Page 29...

A Thanksgiving Song

The first-grade class of Mrs. Jeanne Carra at Granger School would like to share the following song — "The 12 Hours of Thanksgiving" (sung to the tune of "The 12 Days of Christmas"):

On the — hour of Thanksgiving, my mother made for me...

- 1 a 10 pound roasted turkey
- 2 bowls of potatoes
- 3 scoops of peas
- 4 ears of corns
- 5 candy apples
- 6 apple pies
- 7 juicy steaks
- 8 plates of stuffing
- 9 cups of cranberries
- 10 cans of shrimp
- 11 spoons of gravy
- 12 bowls of soup

"Thankful" Thoughts

The first-grade class of Nancy O'Keefe at Granger School would like to share what they are "thankful" for:

I am thankful for my toys, my teacher and my friends.

Hali Stanikmas

I am thankful for my Gateway computer, my brother and my soccer ball.

Alex Einzig

I am thankful for my classroom, my teacher and my friends.

Ryan Sullivan.

I am thankful for my house.

Brandon McElligot

I am thankful for my family and my home.

Jenna Ray

I am thankful for my family.

Anna Matys

I am thankful for my friends.

Joey D'Agostino

I am thankful for my house and my family.

Christina Pietroniro

I am thankful for soccer.

Amber Szczebak

I am thankful we're going to Florida in April.

Jessie Friedrich

I am thankful for my pets.

Victoria Parent

I am thankful for my sister Katherine.

Robert McGeoghan

I am thankful for dinner, rain, sun and soccer.

Michael Coache

I am thankful for my friends.

Michelle Gonzales

I am thankful for my friends.

Amy Lemire

I am thankful for soccer.

Joey Toto

I am thankful for my family.

Daniele DeMay

I am thankful for soccer.

Kyle Keeley

I am thankful for my family and the earth.

Morgan Lockwood

I am thankful my Grandma's soul is still with me.

Shannon Stephens

I am thankful for my family, my grandparents' truck and the bathtub.

Tyler Farrington



MRS. JEANNE CARRA'S first-grade "songwriters" from Phelps School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



NANCY O'KEEFE'S first-graders at Granger School are "thankful" for a variety of things this holiday season. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MRS. SYLVIA SULLIVAN'S first-graders at Phelps have a variety of things planned for Thanksgiving. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

"What Are You Going To Do On Thanksgiving?"

The first-grade students of Mrs. Sylvia Sullivan at Phelps School would like to tell us what they plan to do on Thanksgiving Day:

On Thanksgiving Day I go to a restaurant because I like turkey and my mom doesn't know the recipe and dad doesn't know it either.

Daniel Kononitz

On Thanksgiving Day we go to my uncle's house to have turkey. I don't know why. My dad just brings me there.

Paul Frasco

On Thanksgiving Day me and my mom go to my Grandfather's house to eat turkey. My family goes too. We go to eat potatoes. Then we squirt soda.

Jonathan Rossi

On Thanksgiving Day we stay home and we eat pumpkin pie.

Taylor Dawson

On Thanksgiving Day I like to eat the stuffing. My mom cooks good stuffing.

Michael Despang

On Thanksgiving Day I go to my aunt and uncle's house. I eat turkey and after I read a book by the fire. Then I go home at nine o'clock.

Lisa Cardone

On Thanksgiving Day I go to my Grandma's house and I eat turkey. But I do not like broccoli.

Kayla Ryan

SEE KID'S KORNER - Page 31...

KID'S KORNER - from Page 30...

On Thanksgiving Day my cousins come to my house to eat turkey.

Andrew Bortolussi

On Thanksgiving Day we have turkey. We go to a restaurant. My mom always gets the day off.

Ashon Allsop

On Thanksgiving Day me and mom always eat turkey stew.

Joseph Gabanelli

On Thanksgiving Day I go to my Grandpa's house and I eat turkey.

Joseph Suffriti

On Thanksgiving Day I go to my grandma's house. My grandpa is there, too. We have sweet potatoes. That is my favorite. It is a special day. We are all together.

Brittney Bussiere

On Thanksgiving Day I stay home and have a big dinner. Then I have pie. Grandma and Grandpa come. I have so much fun!

Jared Burinskas

On Thanksgiving Day I go to my Grandma's because my mom doesn't have time to cook.

Gabrielle Gonet

On Thanksgiving Day I go to Grandma's house. I like her cooking.

Janel Thies

On Thanksgiving Day I stay at my house. My dad cooks a big delicious turkey. I like pumpkin pie the best.

Katherine

On Thanksgiving Day I go to my Grandma's because I don't have turkey to eat at my house.

Scott Morace

On Thanksgiving Day we watch TV after we eat dinner. We watch football.

Kara McCormick

On Thanksgiving Day I go to my Grandpa's house. I go to Dave's Pet Food City. I like the pudding.

Daniel Bobeck

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, November 30th: Steamed frankfurt in roll, oven baked beans, oven potato rounds with catsup, chilled peaches, milk.

Tuesday, December 1st: Oven-baked chicken nuggets with honey, seasoned niblet corn, steamed parsley rice, wheat bread and butter, peach cobbler, milk.

Wednesday, December 2nd: Cheese ravioli with meat sauce, tossed garden salad with dressing, Italian bread and butter, chilled pears or jello with topping, milk.

Thursday, December 3rd: Diced chicken pieces with gravy on whipped potatoes, seasoned peas and diced carrots, dinner roll, chocolate cake with vanilla icing, milk.

Friday, December 4th: Grilled cheese sandwich, oven French fries with catsup, seasoned mixed vegetables, ice cream cup, milk.

(Tickets may be purchased on Monday in the elementary schools for the week. Meal price is \$1.10 daily. If paying by check, make check out to "Agawam School Lunch.")

From AHS Guidance...

Thanksgiving - A Time Of Reflection

by Judy Cohen
Guidance Counselor

A few years ago, a former student shared with me his feelings of sadness wondering if life simply involved going to work each day, perhaps squeezing in a little bit of fun time with a wife, sports, etc., and then going to bed at night and beginning the whole routine again.

To him, it seemed as if a bus were going by quickly and he was standing off to the side, not truly embracing life. He wondered if it got any better.

Immediately, I thought yes, but then I began to let my mind wander back to when I was on the brink of 30 and felt amazingly similar to how he was feeling; the only difference is, in my 50's, I now know why. I had never stopped to smell the roses! I had to make each minute count, but in so doing, I was unable to appreciate any minute and indeed, after a time, began to get burned out.

Every few days, we have to take our cars in to get refueled; yet, we don't allow ourselves to refuel. We need to stop ourselves, regroup, and just think about the beauty around us and the fact that we just ARE.

So, on a recent morning, as the water flowed freely in the shower, I let it flow freely over me, allowing my mind to stop its frenetic motion. I began to think about the holiday of Thanksgiving.

Since I equate this holiday with family, I began to think of the family that would be present to share in this wonderful holiday and realized that this is why this holiday is probably my favorite because family, warmth, and love surround me.

Thinking of those who will be seated around the table, I wax sentimental. I ponder the candles with their flames burning brightly and am reminded of the light and brightness that my family has brought into my life. Each, in his or her own way, has left an indelible mark on me and has helped to shape me into the person I am today. I think of my three sons and how much I have learned from them.

From sports, to schoolwork, to relationships, sloppy rooms, fun and laughter, we have shared it all. Yet, how often have I really stopped to appreciate what they have imparted to me? How often have I truly shared with them how much they mean to me?

Yes, maybe a hug, a gesture of warmth has shown my feelings, but what have I voiced? My husband, my helpmate, my soulmate, the one who angers me, cheers me, comforts me, and is just there for me. Do I let him know how I feel? Have I shared my thanks and thoughts with him? Have I stopped to truly ponder what he has meant in my life?

And so it goes. I could think the same thoughts, and I do, of parents and siblings. Yet, again, have I shared these thoughts? How many times do I hear in my office when a family member has died, "Mrs. Cohen, if only I had told him how I felt, if on-

ly..." But, now it was too late.

After I had spoken to that former student, I decided not to be caught up one day in the "if only." I decided to write down my feelings concerning those who would be gracing my Thanksgiving table and share those feelings at the table. Thinking back, I can still see the flickering flames, and their faces listening so intently to my words.

After dinner, several asked if I would make them copies of what I had said. Clearly, they were deeply moved and so was I. Luckily, I was able to realize how blessed I am and share those feelings. Unfortunately, two years later, one seat around our table was empty. My precious, wonderful dad had died, yet how comforted I was to know that I had shared my feelings with him.

This Thanksgiving, cherish each one around your table. Perhaps even have each person present at the table say what he/she is thankful for (most students that I asked in school said "family"). Share with them your feelings, let them know how special they are in your life.

Do stop and smell the roses. I know you will find their fragrance sweet.

To all of you, I wish a happy Thanksgiving. May you be warmed by the love of family and friends. May your lives be bountiful with joy and health.

GUIDANCE BULLETIN

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES: Congratulations!

Aaron Skowrya: Siena College.

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE: If you are interested in meeting with any of the following college representatives, you should sign up at least a day in advance in the guidance office.

December 2nd: Endicott College, 9:30.

SCHOLARSHIPS: See your counselor for more information or an application.

Edward P. Boland Scholarship Program: The applicant for this scholarship must be a resident of the Second Congressional District of Hampden County at the time application is made and must be a graduating senior of a high school in the district. Awards are based on financial need, academic merit and extracurricular activities. The awards range from \$500 to \$2,000. Deadline: March 15, 1999.

Baystate Dental Care LLC and Springfield Dental Associates Scholarships: Two \$500 scholarships will be offered to students who are patients of record at any of the locations of this practice. Applicants must have a B average at mid-term of the senior year and show participation in community service. Deadline: January 31, 1999.

The following colleges are offering merit scholarships: **Tufts University** (the Balfour Scholarship is open to outstanding African-American students), **Fitchburg State College**, and **Fashion Institute of Technology**.

Our classified ads cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take classifieds over the telephone! Please mail you ad with payment to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

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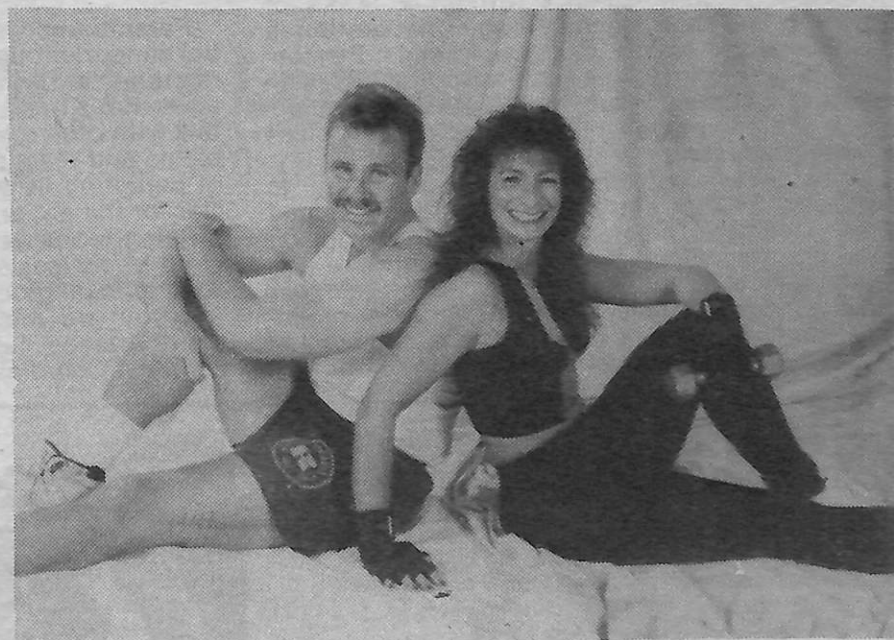
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SANDY MOLLER of Feeding Hills (far right) with her grandparents at Pioneer Valley Christian School.

Pioneer Valley Christian School Holds "Grandparents' Day"

How do grandparents feel when, on a rainy day, they are welcomed with umbrellas, escorted to registration tables for name tags, ushered to classrooms, sit in academic sessions, and enjoy a buffet luncheon topped off with a grandparent-honoring, preschool through high school "Tribute to Grandparents' Day" program? They are thrilled!

Over 160 grandparents (plus "adopted" grandparents) from the greater Pioneer Valley and out-of-state areas recently attended and were honored at their annual "Grandparents' Day" at Pioneer Valley Christian School, an independent, non-denominational school, located at 965 Plumtree Road, in the Sixteen-Acres section of Springfield.

"Despite the rain," reported Headmaster Timothy Duff, "the halls and classrooms were bustling!"

After the classroom sessions, the grandparents were escorted to the gleaming high school cafeteria, overflowing to the auditorium, where a buffet luncheon was prepared for over 300 students and grandparents. High school students, dressed in black and white, served the crowd efficiently. Chef Gouthro, assisted by volunteer parents, handled the volume with ease.

"This event, in its sixth year, continues to develop in interest and enthusiasm," commented Principal Andrew Smith. "All grade levels of children and their teachers begin preparation in September on poems, skits, and songs. Elementary, middle school, and high school choirs (with student accompaniment) train for this special program. This year, the high school speech class also participated."

"Our new conference room was ready to welcome and register our grandparents," added Gary Coombs, Director of Development. "Each visiting grandparent household was given a coffee mug or a fall plant as they left. Each year, our program gains momentum. We've had grandparents fly in from different sections of the country. It's a very heartwarming occasion for all."

"Maple Run" To Perform At Middle School

For its next "First Friday" program, the Agawam Cultural Council is pleased to announce that the group "Maple Run" will be performing at the Agawam Middle School Auditorium, 68 Main Street, Agawam, on Friday, December 4th, at 7:30 p.m.

"Maple Run" specializes in Appalachian clogging, Cajun dancing, and folk dancing, and their performance is sure to please audiences of all ages.

Admission to this event is free, and the public is cordially invited.

Funding for the "First Friday" series is provided through a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Bay Path College Schedules Open House For Sunday, Dec. 6th

Bay Path College will hold an Open House for prospective students and their families on Sunday, December 6th, from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m.

This informative session will include a campus tour; an opportunity to meet Bay Path President Carol Leary and faculty members; an overview of admissions and financial aid at the college; refreshments; and the presentations *Using the Web to Search for the "Right" College and Financial Aid*, and *Bay Path College: A Parent Perspective*.

For more information and to register, please call (413) 565-1331 or toll-free 1-800-782-7284.

Stephen K. Bodurtha Receives Awards At Bowdoin College

Stephen K. Bodurtha of Agawam was among students from Massachusetts designated Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholars and Book Award winners at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine.

Bodurtha is a member of the Class of 1999 at Bowdoin. Book award winners are those students who receive grades of no less than A during the preceding year.

They were among 346 undergraduates accorded recognition for distinguishing themselves in scholarship by the college. The designation as Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholars honors James Bowdoin III and his wife, Sarah. James Bowdoin II was the earliest patron of the college and was instrumental in its founding in 1794.

'Parents Anonymous' Has Local Groups In Westfield

Parents Anonymous (PA) is a free and confidential support group for parents who would like their relationship with their children to be less stressful. At PA, parents have an opportunity to talk with others who may be having the same problems and fears and learn to deal with the stress of parenting in ways that are healthier and happier for the entire family.

Parents are welcome to join at any time and there are no fees or dues. Free child care is provided, and local groups meet in Westfield.

If you are interested in joining this special group, please call the Western Massachusetts Regional Coordinator at 731-5051.

Noted Phys. Ed. Pupils



KRISTEN STROLE AND SEBASTIAN VERELST were recently named as the eighth-grade "Physical Education Students of the Month" at Agawam Junior High School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

AHS Gridiron Parents To Host Annual Thanksgiving Bonfire

Please join the Agawam High School Parents on Wednesday, November 25th at 7:00 p.m., at Harmon Smith Field, for the annual pep rally and bonfire.

A pizza party for players and cheerleaders begins the evening at 6:00 p.m. Music, guest speakers, and senior recognition ceremonies will highlight the night. The "secret cheerleader" unveiling will serve as the finale.

Help the Gridiron Parents give thanks to the team for an exciting season and encourage them to a "Turkey Day" win.

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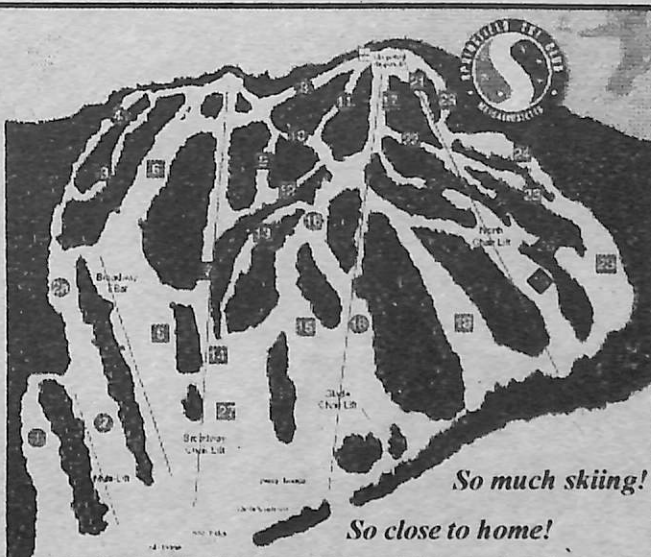
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Sports

On Thanksgiving Day...

Football Rivalry Vs West Side Will Continue With Gusto

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The upcoming Thanksgiving Day football game between Agawam High and West Springfield High will involve two teams who feel they deserved better in the 1998 season.

The Brownies (3-6, 1-5) are coming off a 46-8 loss to AA Conference champion Cathedral last Friday night. The Terriers (1-8, 0-7) were also beat up that same evening by Amherst Regional, 45-6.

Agawam plays in the tough AA Conference. West Side resides in the Suburban League. Both clubs dwell in the cellar of their respective divisions.

West Side has had the worst of it. But, they'll bring in a senior laden team with some talent at various positions. On offense, they have 6'1" quarterback Bob Arnett. The senior is a running quarterback with four touchdowns on the ground this season. In the passing department, he has no touchdowns, but has thrown six interceptions - four of them in a 51-0 loss to Northampton.

Senior Chris Barker (5'9", 190) (3 touchdowns) will be the single back behind Arnett. He can also catch the ball when it's thrown to him. He has over 400 yards rushing on the season. He can be a breakaway threat, as his 28-yard touchdown run against Greenfield showed. But, he is more of a force in the red zone.

If they pass, it will be to 6', 180-pound senior Scott Kelly, who has a touchdown this season on a 35-yard run against Monument Mountain in their season opener and only win (14-8).

Large Offensive Line

The offensive is large. They are led by 5'11", 265-pound tackle (senior co-captain) Bob Kelly. "There is a story behind Bobby," West Side's first-year Coach Brian Burke noted. "Last year, he must have weighed 380 pounds. Even then he was a good football player. Through a diet and an exercise program, he dropped over 100 pounds. He is a very good football player now, especially in the quickness department."

Colin Fletcher, a 6'2", 220-pound senior will also be a force on the line as a blocking tight end. Another big offensive lineman is 5'9", 285-pound tackle T.J. McNamara. Burke is hopeful he'll be able to play. But, an injury will mean they'll have to wait until game time before a final decision can be rendered.

The Terriers run out of multiple sets featuring options, reverses, and counters. Passing is at a premium. They are still trying to find their running game. "That part of your offense has to be established before you can think about throwing the football," Burke said.

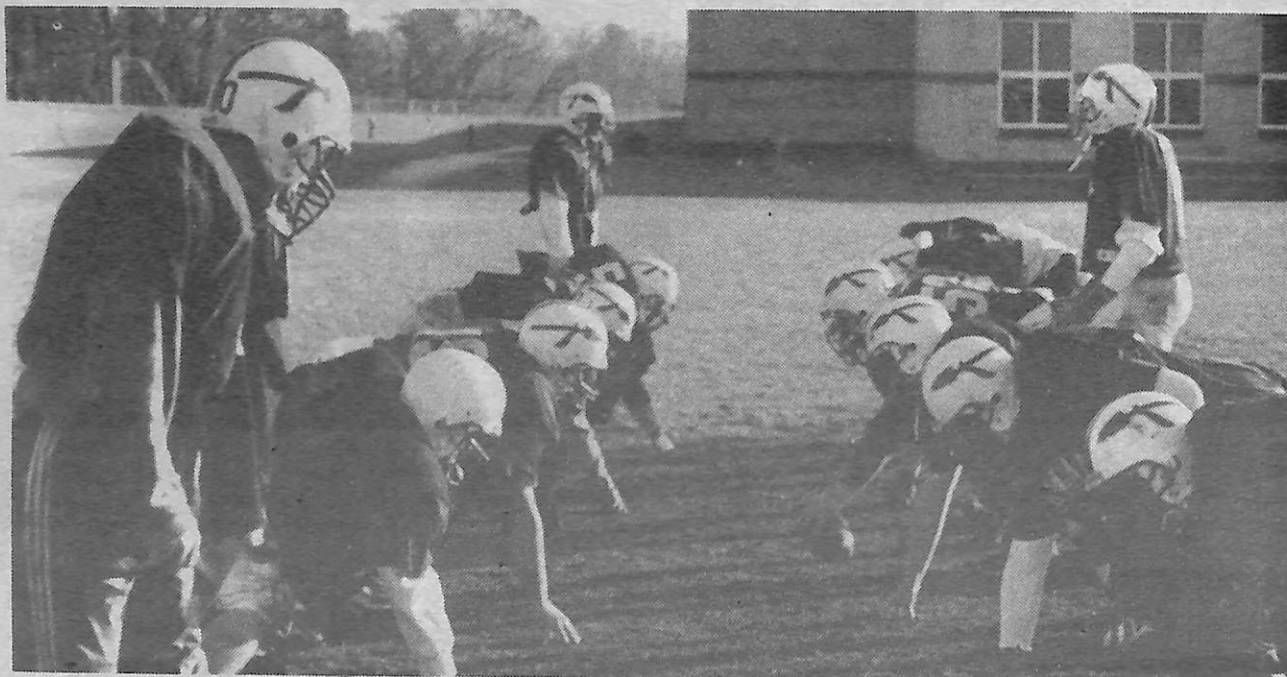
They play a straight-up, 4-3 on defense. The line will feature Kelly, Fletcher, and 6', 200-pound senior Mike Shea, as well as McNamara, if he can play. They are not fancy. They'll blitz on occasion. No one player is a big sack producer.

According to Burke, everyone gets a chance to take a run at the quarterback. Victor Perez, a 5'9", 190-pound senior running back and linebacker is especially tenacious on defense and is the inspirational leader of the team. He is especially adept at filling holes and stopping opposing ball carriers at the line of scrimmage, according to Burke.

Agawam got some much-needed good news. Senior Brian Gallagher will be back in the lineup after missing the Cathedral game with his dislocated shoulder. "Brian said there was no way he was going to sit out the West Springfield game," AHS trainer Dave Stratton smiled. The big guy maybe has more reasons than the traditional rivalry. An ankle injury in last year's game forced him to miss half of it. He also missed a chance at a 1,000-yard season. The 30 he gained gave him 929 for the campaign. He won't come close to 1,000 this year, but whatever he gets might tell him he would have easily had 1,000 yards in 1998 save for the injury. Plus, he would like to add more scores to his nine touchdowns so far on the season.

With Gallagher back, Coach Dean Vecchiarelli can once again run his option, ball control offense, which was coming on as the season went along.

Junior quarterback Brian St. Jean will run the offense. He has seven running touchdowns off the option, including runs of 63 and 53 yards. He had only one touchdown rushing last year. He has thrown two touchdown passes this season as opposed to five last year. "We wanted to get him in-



THE AGAWAM DEFENSIVE AND OFFENSIVE LINES will decide the game this Thanksgiving Day in West Springfield. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Looking Back At 1997...

Agawam's Victory Over The Terriers Wasn't As Easy As The Score Indicated

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Once again, the Annual Thanksgiving gridiron battle between Agawam High and West Springfield High has rolled around. It seems only yesterday that the two teams hooked up for another confrontation in a series that covers eight decades.

That, of course, happened last year at a packed (3,500) Harmon Smith Field. Agawam won in a cakewalk, 27-8. At least the score indicated what

seemed to be an easy battle for the Brownies, but Agawam only led 8-0 at the half. It was an eventful and frustrating 24 minutes.

Brian Gallagher came in with 899 yards on the ground. Besides a win, it was obvious the faithful were looking for the then-junior to break the 1,000-yard mark. With a minute gone in the second

SEE LOOKING BACK - Page 36...

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SEE RIVALRY - Page 36...

LOOKING BACK - from Page 35...

quarter, however, a simple plunge into the line saw the big guy come up lame - a sprained right ankle. Though no one knew it at the time, Gallagher's day was done. He would finish the 1997 season with 929 yards on 211 carries. He had 30 yards in seven for the game last year. Though he made All-Western Mass. as a linebacker, he was deserving of a place on the offensive team.

But, the rest of the Brownies, with their big gun silenced, stepped up. Vinnie Curto (since graduated) scored on a one-yard plunge two minutes later to give Agawam a 6-0 lead. Two points made it 8-0, Brownies.

Not A Well-Played Game

This was not a well-played game. There were 11 turnovers, four by the Brownies and seven by the Terriers. Fortunately for Agawam, it cashed in on the opposition's mistakes. West Side tied it up on their first possession of the second half, scoring with 4:50 to go in the third quarter. The two-pointer made it eight-all.

After a Brian St. Jean pick of a Terrier pass to end the third quarter, Agawam took control. A 50-yard bomb from St. Jean to Eric Melbourne (since graduated) put the Brownies up 14-8, despite the blown two-point conversion.

That play by St. Jean, who would end the season with 1,102 passing yards (69 completions on 183 attempts and five TD tosses), seemed to break the Terriers' back. They came in with a shaky 1-8 record and their response in all things after the fact showed why they had feet of clay.

St. Jean, this year's signal caller as well, came into his own in that game. He rushed for 106 yards and a score on seven carries. That performance was one of the reasons Coach Dean Vecchiarelli made up his mind to feature St. Jean in the option offense Agawam has installed this season.

His finest moment came with 4:40 left in the game. It was an option-sweep right. St. Jean took the ball, saw a crack, and tucked it in. Fifty-nine yards later, he had Agawam's third score of the game and a 20-8 Brownie lead. That turn of events had the Terriers sniffing not so much for the turkey, but more for a fire hydrant.

Relief from all their woes came to West Side in the form of then-senior Mike Wing. Wing, not only an accomplished wide receiver, but also a dangerous defensive back, was waiting on a desperation pass play he knew was coming. With 1:30 left, it arrived.

The Terriers had a second and seven at the Agawam 39. Then-junior quarterback Chris Barker lofted a bomb towards the right corner of the Agawam defensive zone. Wing plucked the dying duck at the three-yard line. Melbourne was 10 yards ahead of the streaking Wing. He made a block at the West Side 20, which set Wing free.

Gallagher, watching from the sidelines, said then, "Those two touchdown plays signaled the end. Everyone knew it was over."

And it was. Agawam had won their second straight Thanksgiving Day game against the Terriers. It came on top of a 29-12 victory in 1996.

The series, which started back in 1924, now stands at 49-21-3, Agawam. They have played in everything that a postman might love; snow, sleet, rain, and the almost dark of night. Both teams, in extremely bad years, have had to practice on their

RIVALRY - from Page 35...

involved in the offense," Vecchiarelli said earlier. They have.

Healthy Offensive Line

Jason Daigneau (3 touchdowns) will take his place on the wing. Mike O'Connor (3 touchdowns) will be available to run or catch the ball. The offensive line, anchored by center Mike Lovely, Eric Pedersen, Bob Fuller, and Mike Wood, is healthy. They are not nearly as big as the Terrier defensive front. But, they are a mean and tough group, which will help.

Defensively, having Gallagher back as the middle linebacker will put a charge on that side of the line. Senior Marc Pedraza, also a backer on defense, is ready. The defensive backfield of St. Jean, Scott Harlin, Ryan Drobot, and Alex Almquist may not see many passes. But, they are competent tacklers and will most likely be busy in that capacity.

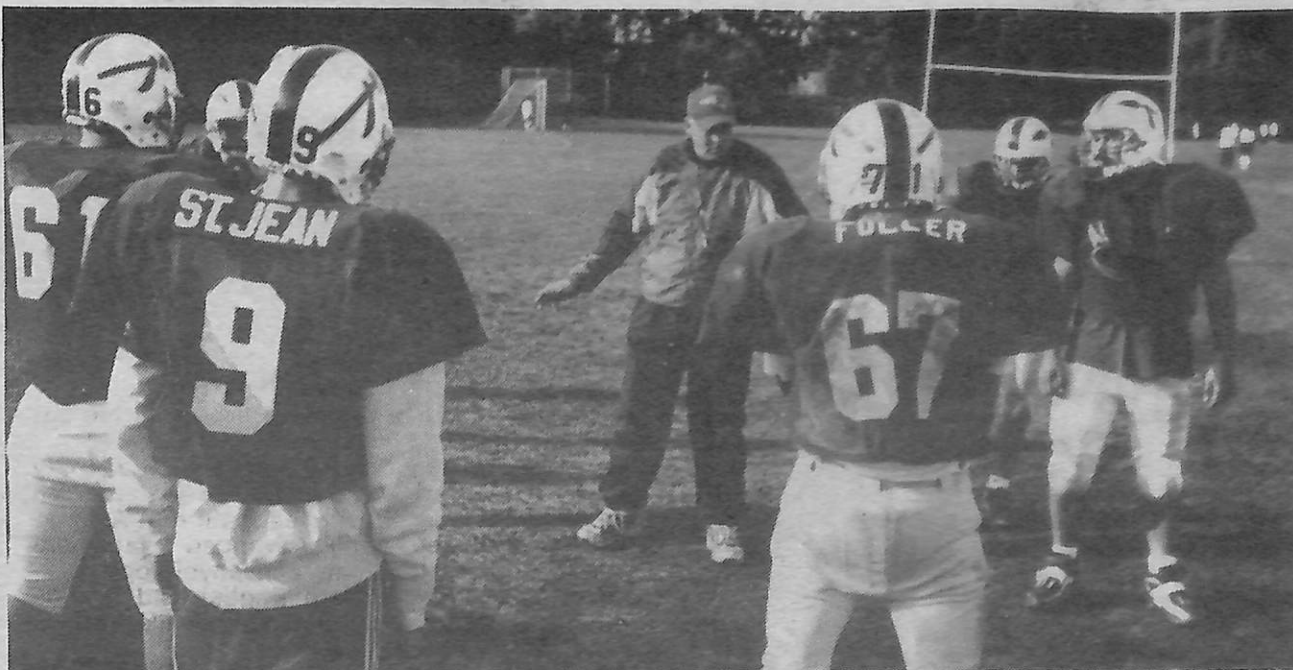
COMPARISONS: West Side has given up 32 touchdowns on the ground, 10 through the air and four via fumble recoveries. They have scored 67 points for an average of 7.4 ppg. They have given up 311 for an average of 34.5 points against.

Agawam, on the other hand, has given up 30 touchdowns on the ground, five through the air, one via an interception, and a field goal. The Brownies have scored 168 points - 18.6 a game. They've allowed 223 - 24.7.

COMMON OPPONENTS: Central: Agawam L, 35-19, WS L, 49-8; Longmeadow: Agawam L, 32-6, WS L, 30-0; Greenfield: Agawam W, 22-8, WS L, 53-12; South Hadley: Agawam W, 20-13, WS L, 35-6.

Terrier Coach Burke had this to say: "I know about the rivalry. I also know that this hasn't been our best season. We'll have our work cut out for us."

SEE RIVALRY - Page 37...



COACH VECCHIARELLI has been busy preparing his troops for the game versus West Side. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

parking lots because the field was a sheet of frozen ice. It made no difference.

Nor did it make any to the faithful on both sides, who endured the brutal elements for a chance to see high school football history, even if it was a little part of the big picture.

Some Personal Comments

The Brownies were out on the practice field this past week. I talked to some of them, in no particular order, about the game. Asbel Nunez, a reserve senior lineman, had this to offer: "For me, it's important because it's the last game of my life as a football player." For most of the kids, that is the way it will be.

Ian Hogan is a junior wide receiver. This will be his first foray into an ancient war. "I'm looking for myself to build up my part of the rivalry." (That is the point. There is honor in this; a coming of age.)

Tri-captain Bob Fuller, who is a genuine tough guy, had this to say, "We are going to try and keep our heads in the game. In the past, sometimes things got a little dirty. We don't want that. This is intense. We don't meet the West Side players that much. But, when we do, sometimes things are mentioned about this game."

Junior lineman Eric Pederson said this: "I came up as a freshman. Last year was my first real experience playing in this game. If we play Agawam football, we'll win." Agawam football is what Vecchiarelli calls up. It is the option with variations. They have been putting in imaginative things all week.

Scott Harlin is a junior defensive back. "This is like two towns coming together, trying for a win. It is incredible. It can make or break your whole season," he noted.

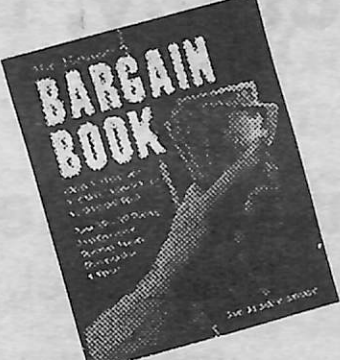
Matt Albano is in his first year as a member of the AHS football team. He is a senior. "I used to go to the Thanksgiving Day games. Now I am part of it."

We will only say this: Agawam is looking to throw some interesting plays into the mix they'll serve up to the Terriers. It might even make West Side walk a little bit on their heels.

Through all the years, this will be another classic. It will be at Clark Field on the campus of West Springfield High School at 10:00 a.m. One team and its fans will be eating a rancid turkey when it is over. The other one will have the bird and all the trimmings.

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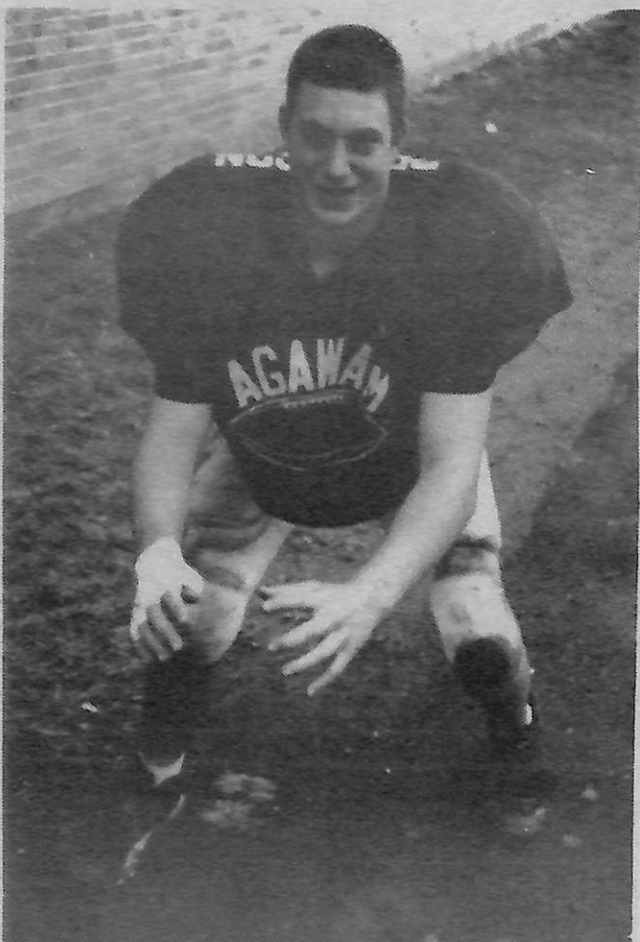
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JUNIOR CENTER Eric Pedersen will be a force for the Brownies this Thursday. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

RIVALRY - from Page 36...

Vecchiarelli will do what he's done all season - stick to an offense that has been, at times, very good and very productive. He knows that they'll have to depend upon Gallagher to make it work.

Stratton just shrugged. "His shoulder could go on the first hit, or not at all. It's a gamble he's willing to take."

Agawam won at Harmon Smith last season, 27-8. On paper it would seem to be all Agawam. But, this is the game. Dump that paper into the circular file.

Profile...

Bob Fuller Believes Football Team's Record Doesn't Reflect Its Talent

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Senior Bob Fuller is one of the Agawam High football tri-captains. He's a tough, no-nonsense kid who anchors the offensive line from his left guard position.

Bob is 17 years-old. He'll turn 18 next January 15th. He's 5'10" and 190 pounds. He has spent all four years of his secondary education at AHS.

Currently, he's taking Advanced Placement English, physics, anatomy and physiology, journalism, and advanced math. English and physics are his favorite subjects. Bob says he likes all his teachers.

He is looking at three institutions of higher learning: Sara Lawrence in Bronxville, New York; Fordham University in the Bronx, New York; and The College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio. He will major either in English, political science, or urban planning.

Bob plays football in the fall and is a member of the track team in the spring, where he specializes in the shot put and javelin.

He likes football the best. "I've played it for eight years. It's a great game and a lot of fun," he smiled.

His most memorable sports moment came last season in Agawam football's 35-20 win over Minnechaug Regional. "I got the first sack of my high school football career in that one," Bob noted.

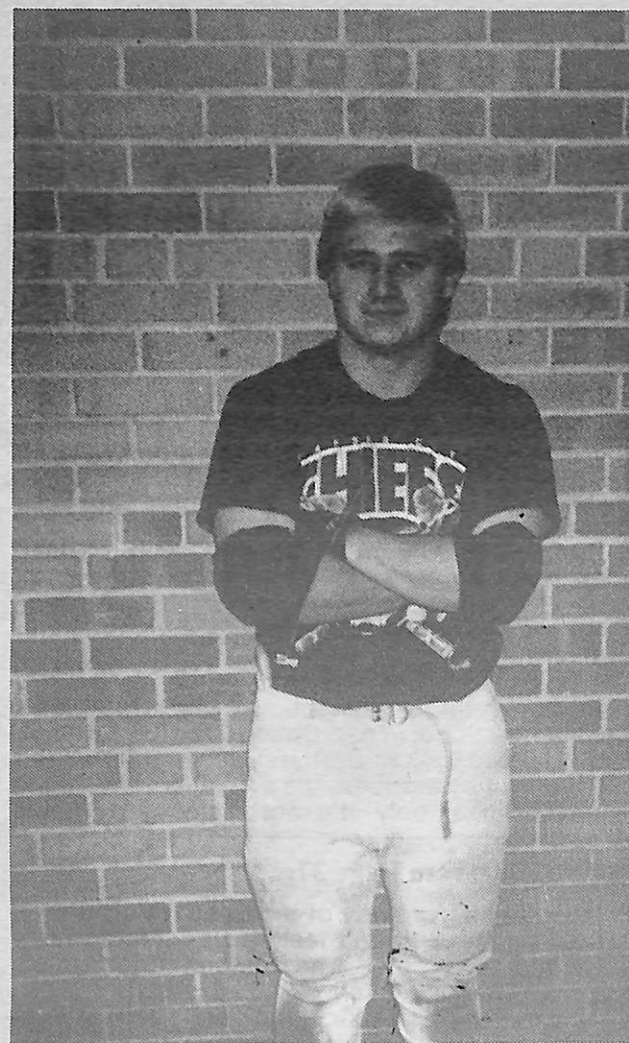
Better Than Their Record

He feels this year's team is better than their 3-6 record. "We are very deep in talent. Mental errors have hurt us and we've given up the ball too many times," he said. "A win over West Side (Thanksgiving Day) will make everything right."

His favorite food is an orange cupcake (no kidding). "I love the topping on them and will eat one whenever possible," he laughed.

Green is his favorite color.

The type of BMW that the new James Bond drives is his choice for wheels.



SEE FULLER - Page 38...

SENIOR BOB FULLER, one of the 1998 football tri-captains. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

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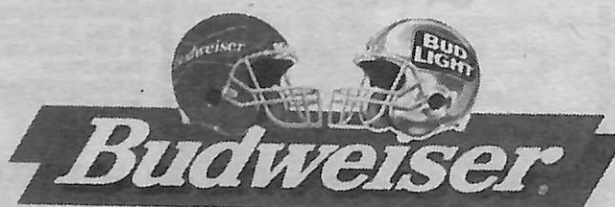
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Profile...

Despite Strained Shoulder Joint, Mike Wood Intends To Play On Turkey Day

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

One mainstay in the Agawam offensive and defensive line this season has been senior Mike Wood. Recently, the big guy took some time out to talk about himself and his days at AHS.

Mike is 17 years-old. He'll turn 18 on May 11th. He's 6'3" tall and weighs in at 210 pounds. Mike has been at Agawam for four years. His course load includes basic accounting, English 12, gym, individual reading, chemistry, and Spanish III. His favorite courses are gym and accounting. His top teacher is Edward Merrill.

Right now, Mike has no plans for college. But, if he does go, business would probably be his major. He only plays football for the Brownies and that is, obviously, his favorite sport.

Memorable Sports Moments

He has two memorable sports moments - last year's 27-8 win over West Springfield on Thanksgiving Day and the game just before that, a 16-16, come-from-behind battle against Chicopee Comp.

He has this take on the present season, which sees the Brownies going into the West Side game with a 3-6-1 record: "We are better than it looks on paper. A win over West Springfield will make our season."

At presstime, the senior is suffering from a strained left shoulder joint. "At first I thought it was just a stinger. Then Coach Stratton (Athletic Trainer Dave) looked at it and decided to have it checked out by a doctor. It's a lot like what (Brian) Gallagher has, only it's not dislocated." Mike

hopes the shoulder will be ready for the West Side game. He was in pads for practice this week.

Mike's favorite food is Chinese - any kind.

Green is his color of choice.

If he could have any automobile, it would be a Porsche.

Atlanta Braves pitcher Greg Maddux is his top jock. The Braves are his team of choice.

When he kicks back to relax, Mike says he does it at his house with assorted friends.

His taste in clothes runs to the casual. "I don't have a favorite brand. Anything that is comfortable is okay with me," he smiled.

Classic and modern rock, with a little rap now and then, suit him in the music department.

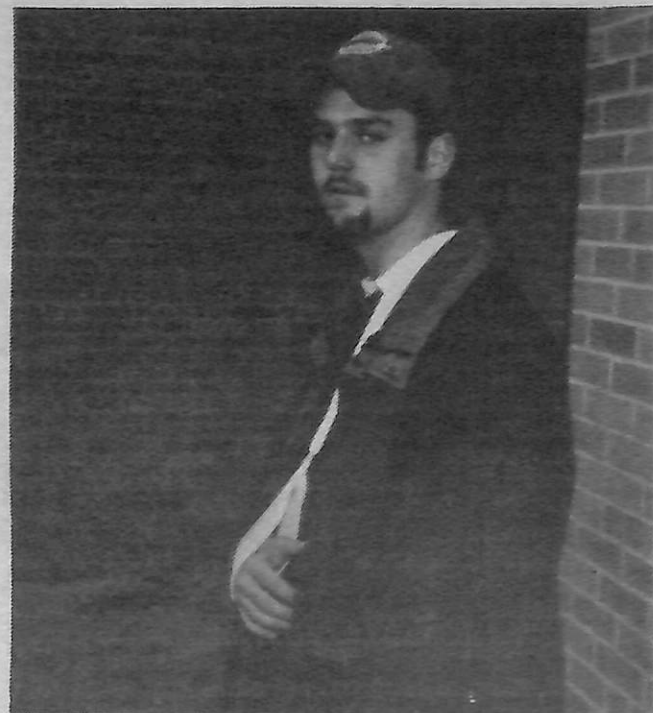
"The Drew Carey Show" is tops on the tube for him.

His mom's name is Cindy. Rich is his dad. He has a brother, Rich, and a sister. Both are older than he is.

He says his friend, tailback Brian Gallagher, is someone he can talk to when he needs some advice.

When his days at AHS are done, Mike wants to be remembered as "someone who was a hard worker and loved the game of football."

Head Coach Dean Vecchiarelli said of his senior lineman, "Mike really doesn't have all that much experience. This is his first season as a starter. He is our most consistent lineman this year and has played very well."



SENIOR LINEMAN MIKE WOOD is looking forward to facing the Terriers. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

FULLER - from Page 37...

Mo Vaughn, formerly of the Boston Red Sox, is his top athlete. "I don't feel he was treated fairly in Boston," Bob noted. The Boston Celtics are his top team.

When he wants to kick back and relax, it is at his sister's house in Greenfield.

According to the senior, his taste in clothes is "eclectic. If at all possible, I won't wear the same outfit two days in a row. If I see something nice, I'll buy it or borrow something from one of my friends who is the same size as me," he explained.

He likes hip-hop and jazz. One of his favorite groups is "A Tribe Called Quest." They are rappers.

The "Daily Show" is tops for him on the tube. "The Warning" is his favorite flick.

Louise is his mom. Curt is his dad, the pastor of the Agawam Congregational Church. He has a brother, Dana, who is an AHS grad and also graduated from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. His sister's name is Shelly.

He says Dana is someone he looks up to. "He's six years older than me and he has always given

me good advice whenever I've asked for it," Bob said.

He would like to be remembered when his days at AHS are done as a hard worker. "Everything I did, from classes to sports, I gave it my best."

"Bobby is one of our leaders. He's a good person both on and off the field. We've moved him around. Before becoming a good lineman, he was a fullback. He never complained wherever we put him. He just played. A team needs an unselfish kid like that," Head Coach Dean Vecchiarelli noted.

All the local sports news with us, each and every week...

* * *

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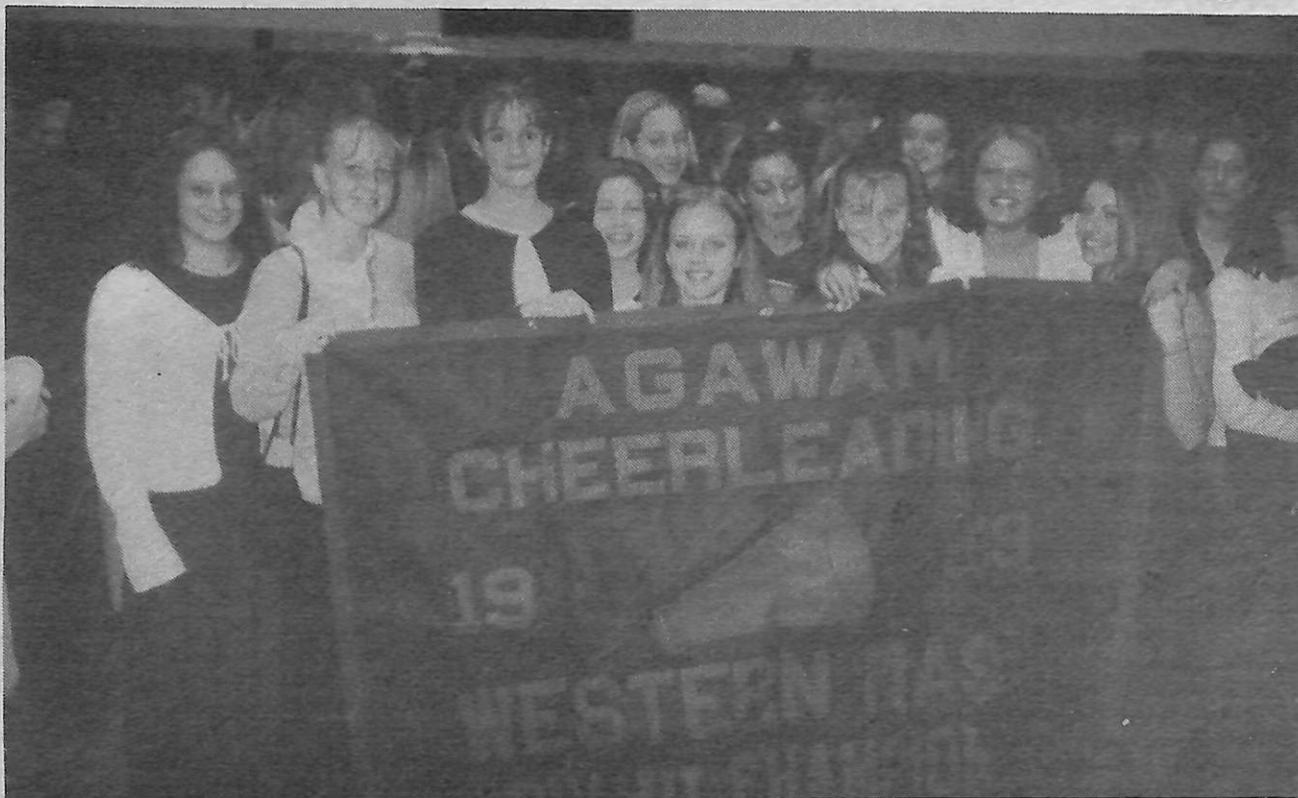
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IN LEFT PHOTO: Athletic Director Kathy McSweeney, who put on Fall Sports Appreciation Night. IN RIGHT PHOTO: The varsity cheerleaders with their banner at Appreciation Night. Advertiser News photos by Dave Rollins.

“Fall Sports Appreciation Night” Acknowledges Athletic Achievements

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

There is one obvious quality about Agawam High School - the treatment the Athletic Department, the administration, and the School Committee give to their student athletes.

They offer them excellent facilities, good public relations, as well as respect, both in good times and bad.

It was evident last Thursday evening, November 19th, at the High School, where Fall Sports Appreciation Night was held. It was an affair put together by Athletic Director Kathy McSweeney, with the blessing of the School Committee.

Kibbe Gymnasium was filled with parents, boosters, friends, and the student athletes as honors were bestowed and much-deserved recognition given. Every fall sport was represented: football, boys' and girls' soccer, field hockey, golf, gymnastics, cross-country, volleyball, and the cheerleaders. The honored guests included the Mayor, the Superintendent of Schools, the Assistant Principal, the School Committee, the athletic trainer, and yours truly. McSweeney, who has initiated a new look in Agawam High athletics, hosted the affair.

Coaches gave short speeches in some cases, noting their records and thanking the Brownie faithful for their support. All the student athletes, from freshmen to varsity, were honored.

The senior captains in every sport got pins commemorating that lofty position. Athletes who earned them over the course of the season received their letters. The varsity cheerleaders were given their championship banner.

The festivities in the gym then adjourned to the newly-renovated cafeteria, where the fare was pasta with some great breadsticks. There were perhaps 500 folks in attendance. This was the first affair of its kind at the High School. From the turnout and the results, it will most likely not be the last.

* * *

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VARSITY FOOTBALL COACH Dean Vecchiarelli with assistant varsity coach Dan Pryce. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.



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Boys' Soccer Review...

Northrup Reflects On Team's Season In Smith Division

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

For the first time since 1994, the Agawam High boys' varsity soccer team was not involved in the Western Mass. playoffs. A 6-10-2 record just doesn't make the nut.

Agawam varsity soccer Coach Dwight Northrup talked about the fortunes of this year's club - last year's Churchill-Moriarty champion (9-6-4) (1997) and a Western Mass. finalist in 1996. Because of their success under Northrup, they were given a berth in the tough Smith Division, the cream of Division I in this region.

Did the year go the way he thought it would, considering they were in the powerhouse Smith? "No, not at all. We always focus on the playoffs, at least since I've been here," he said. "We played well in many games. But, at times, we got a little sloppy. That cost us, big time," he added.

The coach elaborated on the new division his club played in. "It is the toughest in Western Mass., without a doubt," Northrup said. The Brownies went into their final five games with a 5-6-2 record. They needed three wins to make the playoffs. Their final five opponents were Cathedral, Ludlow, Central, Longmeadow, and West Springfield. Every one of those teams, except Central, made the tournament, with Ludlow winning the Western Mass. crown over West Side. Longmeadow made it to the semi-finals.

Not Quite Enough

Agawam went 1-4, beating Longmeadow 2-1 in an away game. It wasn't enough. A 3-1 loss to Cathedral ended their tournament hopes. "It was a tall order we just couldn't fill," he added.

The statistic sheet, as far as scoring went, was balanced. Brian Lopes had 10 goals and six assists. Dave Thomas had five goals and four assists. Jonathan Ashwell and Barry Ward had four goals apiece.

"Our system calls for the kids to be in the right place at the right time. Brian (Lopes) started to get double-teamed towards the end of the season. We had to make some adjustments," the coach noted.

The team scored 28 goals over the 18 games (1.5 gf). They gave up 41 (2.2 ga). The goals against troubled him.

"That is not acceptable if 10 of your 18 games are against Smith Division teams. We needed to get down to giving up a goal a game against them. It didn't happen. In the end, it all comes down to wins and losses and who you beat and who beats you."

The team was 4-3-2 at the midway point of the season, which seemed to put them in good shape for a playoff berth. They ended up going 2-7 over the final nine games. "It wasn't for lack of effort. The competition heated up for us. That 3-1 loss to Cathedral really hurt, I can tell you that," he said.

The teams he wanted to and had to beat, Ludlow and Cathedral, were frustrating affairs. The Lions took them out twice (3-1, 2-0). Cathedral (2-1, 3-1) also broke their hearts. "We have always respected those programs. Right now, I think Agawam High boys' soccer is at the highest level since I arrived here six years ago," the coach said.

Now that it is finished, what could have been better? "We needed a little luck here and there, as most successful teams do. Our two ties, with Chicopee (1-1) and Holyoke (2-2) should have been wins. We played hard enough and would have been in the tournament, had things gone a little differently. But, that's sports."

Northrup felt their first game against West Springfield, a 1-0 loss in the final five minutes on a Kevin McMenamin goal, was the best game he ever coached. "I had my best defender, senior Rich Rodriguez marking him. Kevin just made a great play."

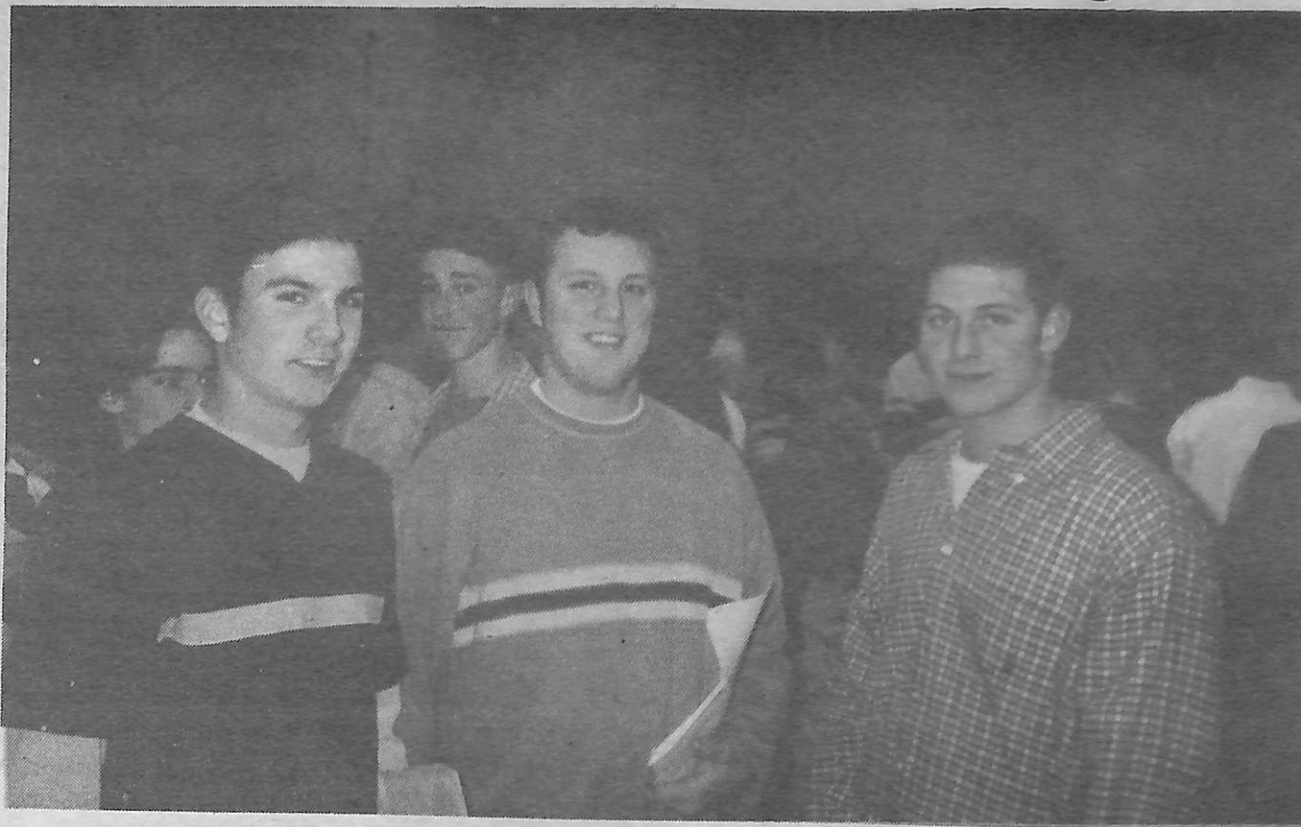
With very successful programs at the junior varsity and freshman levels, the coach is right, Agawam High boys' soccer will keep getting better.

FINAL SCORING: Lopes (10 goals, 6 assists); Thomas (5 goals, 4 assists); Ward (4 goals, 3 assists); Ashwell (4 goals); DiVirgilio (3 goals, 2 assists); Santaniello (1 goal, 2 assists); Bitzas (1 goal); Flood (4 assists); Balbony (2 assists); Federico (2 assists). TOTAL - 28 goals, 25 assists.

**Our next deadline is
Tuesday, December
1st, at 12:00 noon.**

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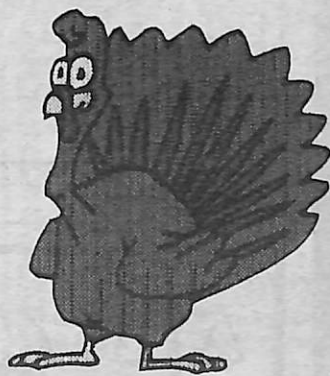
At The "Fall Sports Appreciation Night"...



MEMBERS OF THE 1998 varsity football team at Agawam High School (from left to right): Scott Harlin, Brian Gallagher, and Frank Ferrentino. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.



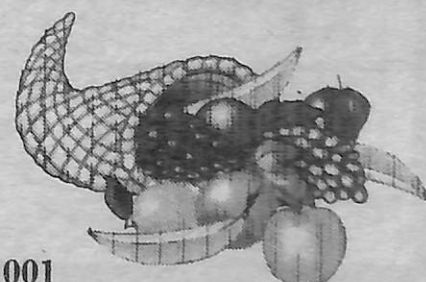
"LET'S ALL SMILE FOR THE CAMERA!": 1998 AHS soccer players Tim Faust, Adam Blair, Mike Thomas, Joe DiVirgilio, and John DeCaro. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.



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Without Hadden & Sekkal... Brownie Gymnasts Wind Up In 7th Place At Western Mass.

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High gymnastics team went into last Friday's Western Mass. Tournament as the defending champion. They came away with a seventh-place finish, due to extenuating circumstances.

They were without their two top guns - senior co-captain Lindsey Hadden and sophomore Leila Sekkal. Both All-Western Mass. performers had to miss the meet for two very different reasons—Hadden, because of a chronic knee problem; Sekkal, because she got into a fight at school earlier in the week and was suspended for three days.

"We went into the competition knowing it was going to be all but impossible for us to repeat. But, we thought a third-place finish might have been a possibility," Coach Angela Sullivan noted. "I told the kids that this meet was for them and to just try for personal bests in all the events," she added.

But, according to the coach, the judges scored tough across the board, not just for the Agawam gymnasts, but for everyone. "I thought some of the kids, not just my competitors, should have scored higher. When I saw the direction the judges were taking, I knew it was going to be a really tough time for us."

Some Impressive Performances

No Brownie finished in the top five in the four events - bars, beam, vault, and floor. But, some did impress the coach.

Junior Stephanie Harnois stuck her routine on the beam. Senior Amanda Peters and sophomore Liz Clark also did well in that event. Freshman Liz Cote was rushed into service on the beam. Cote made up her routine only the day before the meet when it was learned Sekkal and Hadden would be out. "Considering that fact, she showed well," Sullivan said.

Harnois, who didn't compete for much of the season, came through with a good routine on the floor. Co-captain Lisa Marsh gave it her best, but said she was disappointed in her overall performance.

Hadden, who usually competes on the bars, said when her knee acts up, she can't even do the bars because of doctor's orders. "But, she was there to give us some moral support, because we sure needed it," Sullivan admitted.

Agawam's archrival, Pittsfield, took top honors with 129.45 points. The Brownies' total was 109.45, the lowest they have scored in the past two seasons.

New Officials Sought For Hampden County Women's Basketball

The Hampden County Board of Women's Basketball Officials is looking for new officials for the upcoming 1998-1999 basketball season.

If you are interested, contact Bob Clark at 569-3398 or Jon Ferris at 786-9459.

ADVERTISER NEWS



LINDSEY HADDEN (left) and LISA MARSH, the co-captains of the 1998 gymnastics team at Agawam High. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

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It's Official!!!!...

Catholic University Wins First Round In Tri-Parish Bowling

QUESTION: Why are LAURA "Not Maura" SNYDER, MAYBETH "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN, "Scary" LARRY VIENS, and BILL "Black And Blue" GRAY all smiles this Thanksgiving season?

ANSWER: Because they are the members of the Catholic University team in the Tri-Parish bowling league, and (as of Monday, November 16th) Catholic U. became the first-round winner of the league's current season.

We at *The AAN* congratulate Laura, Maybeth, Larry, and Bill for leading their team to an impressive 27.5-12.5 record, and let's hope that their joy over their first-round victory won't cause them to eat too much turkey on Thanksgiving (otherwise the extra calories could possibly interfere with their respective bowling talents in the future).

Holy Cross managed to chalk up a 24-16 record, which was good enough for a second-place finish over Fordham (22-18), St. Mary's (21-19), Notre Dame (20.5-19.5), St. Michael's (19-21), and Boston College (18.5-21.5).

However, it must be said that the biggest surprise of the first round has to be that Georgetown (which was starting to grow roots in last place) wound up in eighth place with a record of 18-22. Kudos to the G-Town players who pulled together during the last few weeks of the first round and finally earned enough wins to climb out of the cellar. (Of course, it cannot be discounted that the weekly "ribbing" that G-Town has taken in *The AAN* had something to do with kicking this team in the proverbial pants and helping it to overcome its seemingly insurmountable slump.)

As for the last two spots in the league, St. Anselm (17.5-22.5) finished the first round in ninth place, and St. Louis (14-26) brought up the rear in 10th.

On Monday, November 16th, as the first round of Tri-Parish action came to end, the matches went as follows: Catholic University defeated Holy Cross, 3-1 (thereby ending HC's quest for first place; Fordham finished off St. Mary's, 3-1; Notre Dame bombed Boston College, 4-0; St. Michael's dominated St. Anselm's, 3-1; and Georgetown (believe it or not!) totally trounced St. Louis, 4-0.

"Richy" RICH SNYDER led the men in scoring on this evening with a 140 single string and a 389 triple string. FRANK "The Tank" CERPOVICZ was the runner-up, courtesy of his 129 single and 367 triple.

The other impressive men-on-the-lanes were "Scary" LARRY VIENS (132, 358), BILL "Black And Blue" GRAY (122, 357), "Jolly" OLLY MULDER (126, 330), and RON "The Don" MENARD (116, 328).

JAN "Not The Man" FULLER was the ladies' champion on November 16th with a 130 single string and a 344 triple string, and she was followed by "The Mighty" DEB POIRIER (118 single, 337 triple) in second.

FLO ROCHFORD (115, 329) also left her mark on the lines on this night, as did "Testy" BETSY CANNON (115, 309), BARBARA "Barb Wire" HOWARD (115, 298), and TERRY "The Terror" CERPOVICZ (111, 286).

Various Locations For Springfield SLAMM Tickets

Tickets for all the Springfield SLAMM games are available at a variety of locations in Western Massachusetts, including Jonathan's Sports World, Route 9, Hadley; Westfield Sport Goods on Route 20 in Westfield; Lally's Pipe & Book on Elm Street in West Springfield; Fenton's Sports in Springfield and Amherst; and Western Village Ski and Sports at 32 Main Street in Northampton.

All of the SLAMM's home games will be played at Springfield College's Blake Arena.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for students under 21, seniors, and children. To charge tickets on the Amex, MasterCard, VISA, or Discover card, call 413-746-BALL (2255).

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* * *

Blandford Ski Area To Host Gigantic Ski Sale On Sunday, December 6th

On Sunday, December 6th, the Blandford Ski Area will host a gigantic ski sale in partnership with the Ski-In ski shops of Wilbraham and Agawam.

New and used ski and snowboard equipment as well as winter apparel will be on sale for savings of up to 75 percent.

Memberships in the Springfield Ski Club, owner and operator of the Blandford Ski Area since 1936, will also be available for just \$179 per person, a \$20 saving off the regular season rate. This pre-season rate will be offered until December 6, 1998.

Memberships include a season pass and discounted ski and snowboard lessons at Blandford Ski Area; a Stratton Express Card for just \$20 (reg. \$89) for savings of 25-50 percent off lift tickets at Stratton Mt., Vermont (just a two hour drive from Springfield); eligibility to enter club races and join the Blandford Race Team; and discounted tickets to club social events!

There will also be a ski swap area for club members to show, sell, and swap their used gear. Blandford's PSIA Ski Sale, the Blandford Ski Area Race Team, Club Board of Directors, and mountain staff will be on hand to answer your questions or show you around. It's a great chance

to visit and hike around our mountain. Weather permitting, hot air balloon rides will be available at a nominal fee for a unique view of our mountain.

The Blandford Ski Area, located about ½-hour west of Springfield (just off Rte. 20) in Blandford, MA, has been providing friendly, affordable, family skiing and riding since 1936 and is the oldest continuously operating, club-owned ski area in North America.

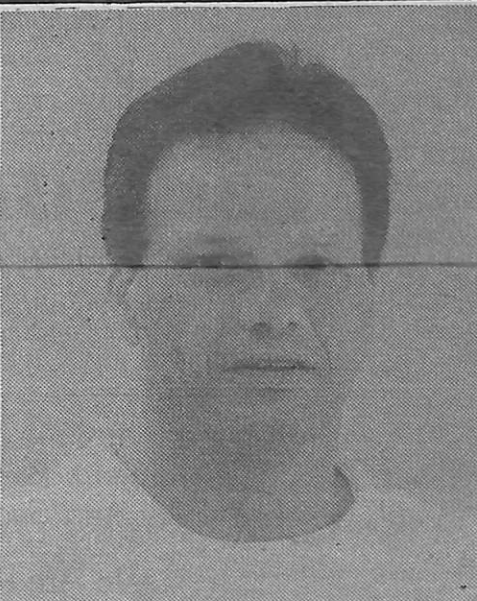
Blandford will operate 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. from December 26th to early March, Friday-Sunday and School vacations and holidays. After doubling our snowmaking power last season, our three double chairs, T-bar, and beginner lift servicing 26 beginner to intermediate trails, operated all but one scheduled weekend last season despite the lack of natural snowfall.

Our 1998/99 season will feature an improved ½ pipe and terrain park and special learn-to-ski offers for young families wanting to learn to ski and snowboard. Group rates are available for area schools and organizations.

For more information, contact Marketing Director Jay Pagluica at (860) 683-7385, ext. 826 or Office Manager Julie Swol at (413) 848-2860.

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Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

A Thanksgiving Thought For Sportsmen...

Thanksgiving morning finds many of us working the bird dogs in early morning frost, as we try to get in those last three days of pheasant season. Regardless of whether or not we harvest any game that day, we have much to be thankful for and to reflect upon.

Our country's ancestors celebrated on that first Thanksgiving Day. It was a celebration of the harvest of the land's bounty. It was also an occasion when man's humanity and goodwill to others was recognized.

The Pilgrims benefitted from the food and knowledge of agriculture that was shared with them by the Native Americans. At that time in history, the first Plymouth colonists would not have survived that first winter without a helping hand.

It is a reminder to us today, in this modern world. It is an example that we can all learn from. It is not important what a man's skin color or religion happens to be. The measure of a man's true worth is found in the goodness in his heart and his willingness to share.

This Thanksgiving, we will all be gathered with family and friends. There will be a bountiful feast of stuffed turkey and every other variety of foods. Many of us will overeat, turn on the traditional football games, and fall asleep in the easy chair.

As outdoorsmen, whether you fish, hunt, hike, or camp, we have a very special reason to give thanks. It is we, who are closer to nature; it is we that can and must share our love of the outdoors with the next generation.

Most of us had a mentor who introduced us to hunting and fishing and other outdoors pursuits. It might have been your father, an uncle, or a neighbor. Regardless of who it was, the fact is that someone cared enough to share a precious treasure of time and knowledge.

As a youngster growing up, my own father was stationed away from home in the Air Force. My dear mother was astute enough to know that boys were supposed to fish and hunt. She enrolled me in the junior program that was run by the Agawam Sportsman's Club. It was there that Ed Gleason of Agawam took me under his wing. He was my shooting coach as well as fishing instructor. He took the precious time to teach gun safety to hundreds of youths during the course of his life.

It was Ed Gleason who taught me how to fish a trout stream and to appreciate the grandeur of nature. His influence also helped to mold my character in a very positive way.

Ed guided me on my very first deer hunt. I had the privilege of taking Ed on his last. It has been well over a decade since his passing, but his gift to me will live on.

Each Thanksgiving, I give thanks for the priceless treasure that he shared with me, and I have passed that to my son, Todd.

As we reflect on this day of Thanksgiving, while we are giving thanks for the company of friends and loved ones, let us pledge to show our gratitude by sharing our love and enjoyment of the outdoors with a young person this coming year.

With fewer and fewer young people being involved in outdoor pursuits, we as a nation are losing our heritage and they are losing what could be a lifetime of healthy enjoyment.

We can not rely on someone else to shoulder the burden. We must, as individuals, take the initiative. No government program is going to take your place in sharing your love of the outdoors with a youngster.

Have a safe and bountiful Thanksgiving holiday!

Kent Servis'
column, "Outdoors
New England,"
is a weekly
feature of the
**ADVERTISER
NEWS...**

Piranhas Begin Winter Season With Victory Over South Hadley, 196-192

The Agawam Piranhas held their first meet of the winter season on November 14th.

The team, with a roster of 73 swimmers, headed by coaches Kim Scofield and Jennifer Cunningham, and assistant coaches Danielle DeForge and Brenna McGinn, won against the South Hadley team by a score of 196-192 at the South Hadley Middle School.

The results included:

Girls 8 & under:

The team of Krystinia Albano, Kathryn Malone, Taryn Dooley, and Brittany Sullivan placed first in the 100-yard freestyle relay; and the team of Jennifer Golbach, Mary Malone, Nicole Bouley, and Nika Settembre placed third.

Kathryn Malone, third in 25-yard freestyle; Taryn Dooley, first in 25-yard butterfly; Brittany Sullivan, third in 50-yard freestyle; and Krystinia Albano, third in 25-yard backstroke.

Boys 8 & under:

Patrick Skelley, second, and David Dominik, third in 25-yard freestyle; Andrew Ardolino, first in 25-yard butterfly; Nathan Fraga, first in 50-yard freestyle; and Andrew Ardolino, first in 25-yard backstroke.

Girls 9-10:

The team of Johannah Kos, Tammy Gorman, Julie Gorman, and Caitlin Hurley placed third in the 200-yard medley relay.

Johannah Kos, first, and Julie Gorman, third in 100-yard individual medley.

The team of Julie Gorman, Caitlin Hurley, Brittany Gutowski, and Tammy Gorman placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Katelyn Iacolo, third in 50-yard freestyle; Johannah Kos, first, and Allison Nyman, second in 50-yard butterfly; Angela Virella, second in 100-yard freestyle; Brittany Gutowski, first in 50-yard backstroke; and Tammy Gorman, second in 50-yard backstroke.

Boys 9-10:

Anthony Ardolino, second in 50-yard freestyle; Adam Deliefde, first in 100-yard freestyle; Anthony Ardolino, first in 50-yard backstroke; and Adam Deliefde, first in 50-yard backstroke.

Girls 11-12:

The team of Jessica Lalli, Angela Vinton, Kaitlin Bond, and Meredith Golbach placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Jillian Kos, first in 200-yard individual medley; Angela Vinton, first in 200-yard freestyle; Meredith Golbach, first, and Kaitlin Bond, third in 50-yard freestyle; Katie Gorman, first in 50-yard butterfly

and first in 100-yard freestyle; Jessica Lalli, second in 50-yard backstroke; and Jillian Kos, first, and Kaitlin Bond, third in 50-yard backstroke.

The team of Katie Gorman, Jessica Lalli, Jillian Kos, and Meredith Golbach placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Boys 11-12:

The team of Connor Dooley, Alex Bakhared, Jeffrey Lagasse, and Erik Deliefde placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Matthew Gendron, first in 200-yard freestyle; Erik Deliefde, first, and Kyle Turcotte, third in 50-yard freestyle; Jeffrey Lagasse, first, and Alex Bakhared, third in 50-yard butterfly; Connor Dooley, second, and Kyle Turcotte, third in 100-yard freestyle; Erik Deliefde, first, and Connor Dooley, third in 50-yard backstroke; and Jeffrey Lagasse, second, and Alex Bakhared, third in 50-yard backstroke.

Girls 13-14:

Allison Morris, second in 200-yard individual medley; Brittany Theriaque, second in 200-yard freestyle; Laura Zerra, third in 50-yard freestyle; Daveen Macsata, second in 100-yard butterfly; Brittany Theriaque, second in 100-yard freestyle; Daveen Macsata, second in 100-yard backstroke; and Allison Morris, first in 100-yard backstroke.

The team of Brittany Theriaque, Laura Zern, Daveen Macsata, and Allison Morris placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Boys 13-14:

The team of Thomas Gorman, Jason St. George, Kyle Sullivan, and Daniel Adamski placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Thomas Gorman, first, and Matthew Hayden, second in 200-yard individual medley.

Kyle Sullivan, first, and David Torrey, second in 200-yard freestyle; David Torrey, second in 50-yard freestyle; Jason St. George, second in 100-yard butterfly; Wayne Mitchell, second, and Matthew Hayden, third in 100-yard freestyle; and Daniel Adamski, second in 100-yard backstroke.

The team of Jason St. George, Kyle Sullivan, Thomas Gorman, and Daniel Adamski placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay; and the team of David Torrey, Wayne Mitchell, Stevan Iacolo, and Matthew Hayden placed second.

Girls 15-18:

Kaitlin Morris, third in 50-yard freestyle, and third in 100-yard backstroke.

Boys 15-18:

Nathan Adamski, first in 200-yard freestyle, and first in 100-yard freestyle.

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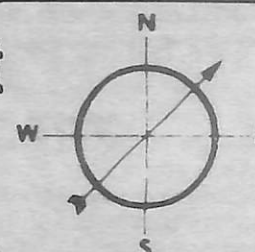
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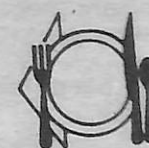
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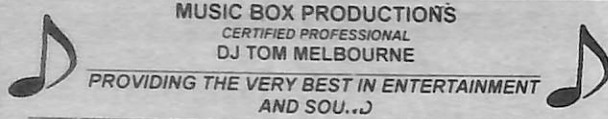
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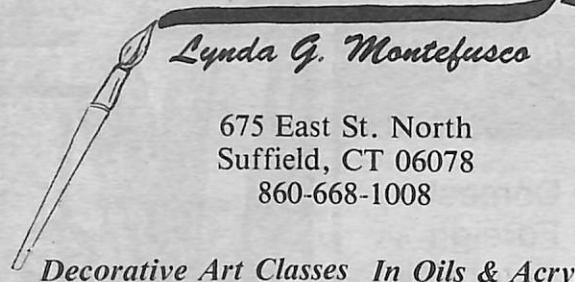
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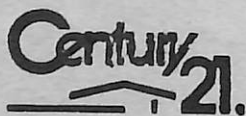
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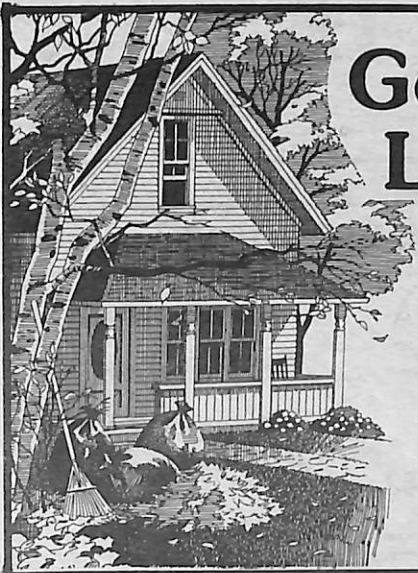
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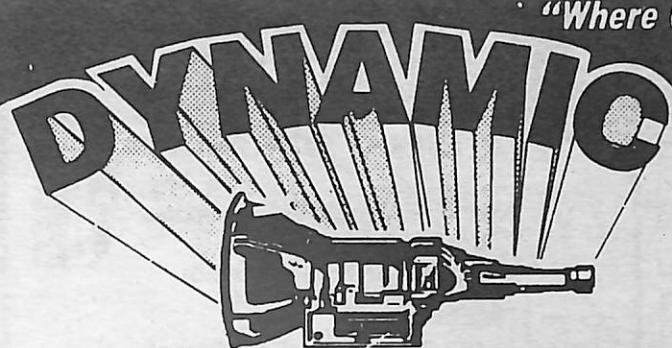
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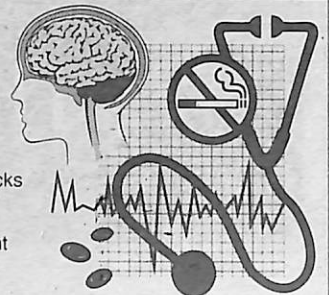
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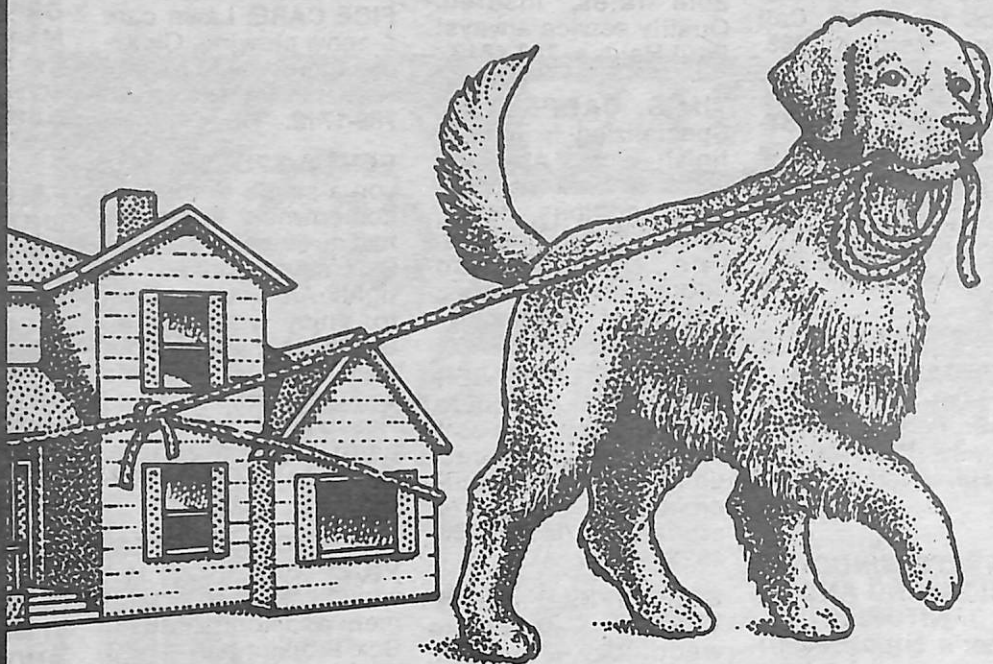
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